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1 January 2020 Vol 27 • Issue 1 www.champnews.com

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HOSPITAL PARKING FEES SCRAPPED FOR THOUSANDS OF PATIENTS AND STAFF

Free parking will be introduced for thousands of patients and staff at Ormskirk and Southport hospitals

Charges to be abolished for many at Southport and Ormskirk sites

Report by **Henry James**

THOUSANDS of patients and visitors to Southport and Ormskirk hospital sites are in line to benefit from free parking.

From April 2020, all hospital trusts in England, including Southport and Ormskirk, will be expected to provide free car parking to groups that may be frequent hospital visitors, or those 'disproportionately' impacted by daily or hourly charges for parking.

The people included in the proposed changes are:

- blue badge holders
- frequent outpatients who have to attend regular appointments to manage long-term conditions
- Free parking will also be offered at specific times of day to certain groups, including: parents of sick children staying in hospital overnight; hospital staff working night shifts

While it is up to individual trusts to make their own car parking arrangements, health chiefs at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust this week told the Champion that they will make the 'appropriate arrangements' on parking concessions once they have official notification from the Government.

NHS hospital car parking fees were abolished in Scotland and Wales in 2008 but in England people have had to continue paying what many critics have called a 'tax on the sick'.

The government says the change will make the NHS as accessible as possible for those who need it most and have little choice but to travel by car. The government also points out many hospitals ignored guidance on parking charges issued in 2015 and are still charging the protected groups.

At Southport and Ormskirk Hospitals, patients and visitors currently receive free parking for 0 to 20 minutes stay but thereafter are charged - 20 minutes to one hour £3; one to two hours £3.50; two to three hours £4; three to four hours £4.50; four to six hours £5.50; more than six hours £6.50.

'Greatest need'

Locally, during the financial year 2018/19, Ormskirk Hospital made £705,705 from car parking charges and Southport Hospital £959,997, which is a combined total of £1,665,702. This is an increase on the previous year when the figure was £1,524,408.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock said: "From April, across the country those with the greatest need - such as disabled people, parents staying overnight with sick children in hospital, and NHS staff working nightshifts - will no longer have to pay for parking."

At Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, Therese Patten, deputy chief executive, said: "The Trust will make appropriate arrangements once we have official notification of the Government's announcement on parking concessions.

"We already offer discounts for frequent visitors and support for people on low incomes."

The government has said that no NHS trust will be left with less money because of the change.

Last year, hospital trusts in England made more than £254m from car parking charges, and a further £1.5m from parking fines, according to data from Freedom of Information requests.

NHS Providers, which represents health managers, has also defended parking charges, saying fees can be used to ensure parking facilities are maintained, lit well, and secure, with any surplus reinvested back into wider services for patients.

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Council leader excited for 2020 plans

Report by **Kenny Parker**

THE leader of West Lancs council has thanked council staff for their work over the past year and spoken of exciting plans in store for the borough in 2020.

Wishing the people of West Lancs a very happy festive period and a 'peaceful New Year,' Councillor Ian Moran asked for residents to spare a thought for those who might 'need a helping hand' over the period.

He said: "While this is a joyful time for many of us, I would ask people in West Lancashire to spare a thought for those who may need a helping hand over the festive period.

"The year 2019 has been an important year for the council as we have implemented a new operating model and I would like to thank council staff for their professionalism and continued hard work for the people of the borough.

"This year has seen the completion of two great housing schemes, one at Walmsley Drive, Ormskirk and Beechtrees in Skelmersdale. The Walmsley Drive scheme was shortlisted for a national award, and the Beechtrees homes really enhanced the appearance of the area.

"We have also made significant progress on our proposals for new leisure and wellbeing hubs in Ormskirk and Skelmersdale. Work will continue on these projects throughout 2020.

"Each year the council organises major events for local people to enjoy and to bring people into the borough. In 2019 the Green Fayre, Ormskirk MotorFest and the Ormskirk Christmas of Tales and Festive Lights Switch On were a huge success with the MotorFest in particular attracting record crowds.

"With the new year about to begin, I am really excited about the beginning of the new town centre for Skelmersdale, with building work scheduled to start on site in January. This is an incredibly important project, not just for Skelmersdale but the whole of West Lancashire.

"The year 2020 also sees a number of key developments moving ahead in Ormskirk town centre, including upgrading the pedestrianised area of Moor Street, which will allow for an extension of the historic twice weekly market.

"There is also the development and re-awakening of Wheatsheaf Walk as a public square, which vastly improves an important link between one of the main carparks and the town centre. This will positively impact the surrounding retailers, as well as the overall aesthetics of the town.

"These are just some of the exciting things we have to look forward to in the future as the council continues to be ambitious for the borough, its people, businesses and places and continues to strive towards achieving the goals in the Council Plan."

Ormskirk town centre packed with 'record crowds' at the 2019 MotorFest

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Business owners learn protection techniques for a range of crimes

MORE than 170 people from the business community attended a conference hosted by Lancashire Constabulary on how to protect against a range of crimes from shoplifting to modern slavery.

Supported by the National Business Crime Centre, the Crime Prevention Conference, held recently in Blackburn, brought together speakers from a range of backgrounds including cyber-crime, modern slavery, counter terrorism and violence against retailers.

Michael Grime, Business Crime Coordinator for Lancashire Constabulary said: "Leading up to the busiest time of year for retailers, it was very important that we came together to discuss ways in which businesses can reduce the risks of things going wrong, whether its reducing the impact of shoplifting or how to spot cybercrime tactics criminals use.

"The event gave delegates the opportunity to hear from industry experts on topics use as cyber-crime, modern slavery, counter terrorism and violence against retailers and gain advice on the simple steps they can take to reduce their risks of being targeted by criminals."

Michael Grime

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Skem man jailed for child sex offences following investigation

A SKELMERSDALE man has been jailed for child sex offences following a Lancashire Constabulary investigation.

Colin Mooney, 31, arranged online to carry out the sickening abuse but was arrested in May after turning up for a face to face meeting.

Mooney, of Ormskirk Road, Skelmersdale, admitted offences of arranging and facilitating the commission of a child sex offence and attempting sexual communication with a child.

He was sentenced at Preston Crown Court on Thursday, December 19 to four years imprisonment with an extra two years on licence.

Mooney is deemed as a Dangerous Person so cannot be released until two thirds of the way through his sentence and he then has to prove to the parole board that he is not a risk to the public before being released.

Colin Mooney

He was also given a Sexual Harm Prevention Order for 10 years and will be on the Sex Offenders Register for life.

Detective Constable Kate Molloy, of South CID, said: "Colin Mooney is clearly a depraved individual and the content of his online discussions is frankly sickening.

"He is a dangerous man and I am satisfied that the jail sentence and orders imposed will help protect the public for some considerable time to come.

"Lancashire Constabulary will continue to target those who seek to abuse children and to put them before the courts."

Police appeal after delivery driver is robbed by men with gun and iron bar

POLICE are appealing for information after a delivery driver was robbed by men believed to be wielding a gun and metal bar in Appley Bridge.

Lancashire Police say they were called at 6.44pm on Sunday, December 15 to reports that a takeaway delivery driver had been threatened by two men on Finch Lane. They were holding weapons – one believed to be a gun and the other, an iron bar.

After the victim was made to get out of his vehicle, a blue Ford Fiesta, he was approached by another man in a black Saab Estate who took a small amount of money from his hand.

The Saab then drove off, with the two offenders leaving in the victim's car.

The victim was not hurt and the Fiesta was later found by police in a car park in nearby Shevington.

DC Danny Gardner of Ormskirk Police said: "We would appeal to anyone who saw anything suspicious to get in touch.

"We are particularly keen to know if anyone has seen the two vehicles described, between 6.44pm and 7.10pm on Sunday, December 15. If you have any information at all, no matter how small, please pick up the phone."

Anyone with information should call 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Burscough bulk handling company closes with loss of 92 jobs

LONG standing and respected employer in Burscough has gone into administration with the loss of 92 jobs.

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Universal Bulk Handlers International, based on Orrell Lane, made container tanks for the worldwide market. It was set up in the 1958 and became a cooperative in 1999.

While it is hoped that a buyer can be found for the company the administrators confirmed the majority of staff at UBH have been laid off.

Administrators Graywoods said in a statement "Burscough company UBH International LTD, the manufacturer of container tanks for national and international customers, has gone into administration.

"Ryan Holdsworth and Adrian Graham, of Sheffield-based insolvency practitioners Graywoods, were appointed joint administrators of the company on December 17.

"A total of 92 employees were made redundant on December 17, though some staff were retained to assist the administrators with a view to selling the business.

"Walker Singleton, agents for the joint administrators, are marketing for sale the business as a whole and all enquiries should be sent to: Walker Singleton on 0113 848 0000 and leeds@walkersingleton.co.uk"

The closure of the company so close to Christmas has shocked and saddened the local community. Burscough West Borough Councillor Andy Pritchard said: "This is a sad loss for Burscough. It's been a solid employer for generations of local families. I hope that those who have lost their jobs can find new employment soon."

His feelings were echoed by local historian Michael Dawson who said it was a "great shame" and "very sad times".

Universal Bulk Handling International on Orrell Lane, Burscough which has gone into administration.

Queen's Award

The company was bought out by a number of staff after previously going into liquidation in the 90s with the loss of 270 jobs. After winning the Queens Award for Export in 1996 it was found that the company's financial director at the time, with the knowledge of the managing director, had been found to have been falsifying the accounts and fraudulently trading. They had claimed the company was running at a £2.5m profit when in reality it was £11m in deficit.

The two directors were jailed in 2003.

In recent times it is believed that the company has struggled to compete with manufacturers from around the globe.

Phil Davey, the father of one of the workers laid off said that UBH treated its staff well. He added: "Alex had worked at UBH for almost 12 months. They had a really good working conditions. UBH looked after him when he had an accident at work and were going to send him on a coded welding course to London.

"They had already tested him to a coded level for which he had a certificate. So to me this showed they cared for their employees. Such a shame they have closed, but it seems they were competing against the likes of the Chinese, so the market became difficult."

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University opens new International Centre on Racism

Report by **Henry James**

Guest speakers and attendees at the International Centre on Racism's inaugural event

THE launch of a new International Centre on Racism (ICR) has been described as coming at a "critical moment" when race is at the forefront of public debate.

Edge Hill University's new ICR has been set up to deliver advanced research on global questions concerning racism, building on the university's "long history of anti-racism".

Professor James Renton, director of the new centre, explained his ambition was to "lead concrete work" on an international level that dissects all racisms, including anti-semitism.

Previously, most initiatives have focused on particular racisms or individual countries.

He said: "This centre really puts Edge Hill on the map in the UK and internationally at a time when racism studies are at a critical moment.

"It's a sad fact that the vast majority of people I speak to - and that's people outside of academia - have experienced or witnessed racism.

"People are aware that racism needs to be at the top of the political and social agenda."

Edge Hill has an extensive history of racism studies; during the 60s and 70s the university's then Principal, PKC Millins, was at the forefront of national efforts to use education as a means of improving race relations.

As late as the 1990s, the university was the only UK institution to deliver an undergraduate degree in race and ethnic relations.

Deputy-director, Dr Jenny Barrett, added: "The ICR is important because it will address all racisms, including anti-semitism, which is often dealt with separately, and will tackle big, global questions."

The centre is an official partner with MONITOR Global Intelligence on Racism, the high-profile multimedia magazine dedicated to bringing expertise on racism to public debate, which is based at the European University Institute in Italy.

The ICR is supported by a global team of experts in Europe, North America and Australia.

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The cast of Elf The Musical

Students at Artz Centre finish 2019 with Christmas musical

AFTER a year of providing more and more opportunities in the arts for local people, the social enterprise Artz Centre in Skelmersdale capped off their year with one final smash hit production.

Report by **Henry James**

The production was none other than MTI's Elf The Musical Jr, a Christmas classic based from the 2003 movie of the same name starring Will Farrell. Since September both the Artz Junior and Senior Drama Academies have been hard at work in rehearsals, making for a cast of 95 youngsters aged seven to 17 who came together on stage at the local Lathom High School Arts Theatre. They told the story of Buddy The Elf to a completely sold out audience across all five performances.

But a huge cast of students such as this required a huge crew of professionals to match; from technicians to stage team to costume designers and more, a total of 46 crew members volunteered their time and experience to help make the performance possible.

Among the wealth of memories made on and off stage, the production also marked a special milestone for a collection of Artz Students.

A total of five local young people received their 'Chapter 1' award from the Artz Centre (AC) for making their first on stage appearance in one of the organisation's productions, while two students celebrated receiving their 'Chapter 15' award, for making their 15th appearance in an AC production.

For three dedicated students, it was their moment to take home the highly coveted 'Chapter 30' award. Molly Waterhouse, Ben Rigby and Imogen Nester have each starred in a staggering 30 productions. They joined a fellowship of students to have been recognised for the longevity of their input, commitment and hard work and will have their photographs proudly displayed at the Artz Centre's base of operations in Birch Green to inspire future generations of performers.

A spokesperson for the Artz Centre commented on the massive success and achievement of everyone involved in the production, and said: "It would be an admirable achievement for any organisation to produce one event like this a year, however Elf marks the 24th event we have produced in 2019, the 15th of which to be a theatre production.

"When you consider that, it is an outstanding achievement not only for the team who produce these events, but of the young performers who come back show after show always striving to achieve the very best they're capable of."

The Artz Centre will now close its doors for 2019 and receive TLC as the team set their sights on goals in the New Year. Both the Artz Centre in Birch Green and its sister site in Up Holland will be back to business on January 6.

Skelmersdale driver caught driving while disqualified thought period had ended

By our **Court Reporter**

A SKELMERSDALE man who was caught driving while disqualified had mistaken the time when he thought his disqualification ended, a court was told.

Florin Cosoveanu, 30, of Abbeystead, Digmoor, pleaded guilty to driving while disqualified and driving without insurance when he appeared at Sefton Magistrates Court on December 11.

The court heard that he had been stopped during a routine police operation in Bootle on November 20 when he was recorded to be speeding.

He was subsequently found to have been disqualified from driving for six months on June 6 under totting up rules, i.e. because of an accumulation of penalty points.

Prosecutor Eve Johnson said: "He was arrested and cautioned. "His response was, 'I didn't know, I thought the disqualification period had ended in November.'

"The defendant said he had not attended court but was informed by letter. He said he had lost the letter."

Solicitor Eileen Chisnall said that Cosoveanu, who is Romanian, had the car insured but the insurance was invalidated by him being disqualified.

The magistrates said they accepted that he had made a genuine mistake and fined him £288, ordered costs and victim surcharge of £117 and added six points to his driving licence.

Cosoveanu thanked the magistrates and saying he would shake their hands if he could. He added: "I am not a criminal."

Man charged following triple shooting in Skem

A MAN was charged by detectives investigating a triple shooting.

Around 1.30pm on October 15 three men aged 46, 45 and 21 were injured following a firearms discharge at a property in Belfield. The men were taken to hospital for treatment and are continuing to recover from their injuries.

Following extensive enquiries a man was arrested by police on Thursday, December 19 in the Liverpool area. Thomas Anderson, 21, of no fixed address, has been charged with three offences of attempted murder and possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life. He was remanded to appear at Preston Magistrates' Court on Friday, December 20.

A 17-year-old girl from Liverpool arrested on suspicion of assisting offenders was released under investigation.

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Pupils at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School with the blanket they knitted for Bai Chan

Primary school knitters make blanket for rescued Northern Thailand elephant Bai Chan

RESCUED elephants in Northern Thailand need blankets to keep warm, as it gets cold in the mountainous regions.

To help these elephants, the knitting group at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School in Skelmersdale, along with staff and the wider community, joined together to create a blanket for them.

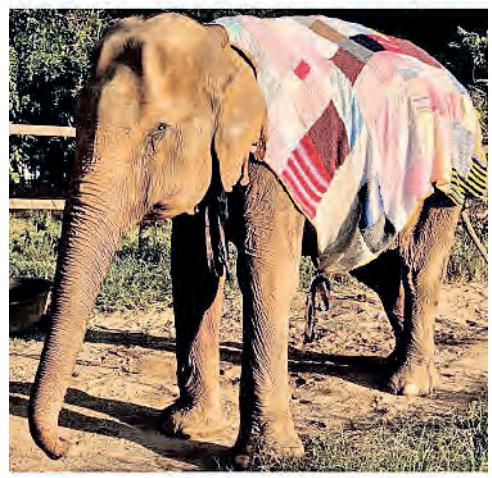
This has been donated to the Elephant Nature Park in Chiang Mai, Northern Thailand, and has been given to Bai Chan; at more than 70 years old, she is one of the older elephants at the park.

She was rescued from the trekking industry where she was forced to walk and carry tourists around.

Bai Chan loves her new blanket and has been proudly walking round the park to show it off!

A spokesperson for St Francis of Assisi school said: "There are more elephants in need of blankets so we will be continuing to collect squares.

"If anyone would like to donate knitted or crocheted squares we are looking for them to be 20cm or 30cm square."



Bai Chan with the blanket knitted by pupils at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

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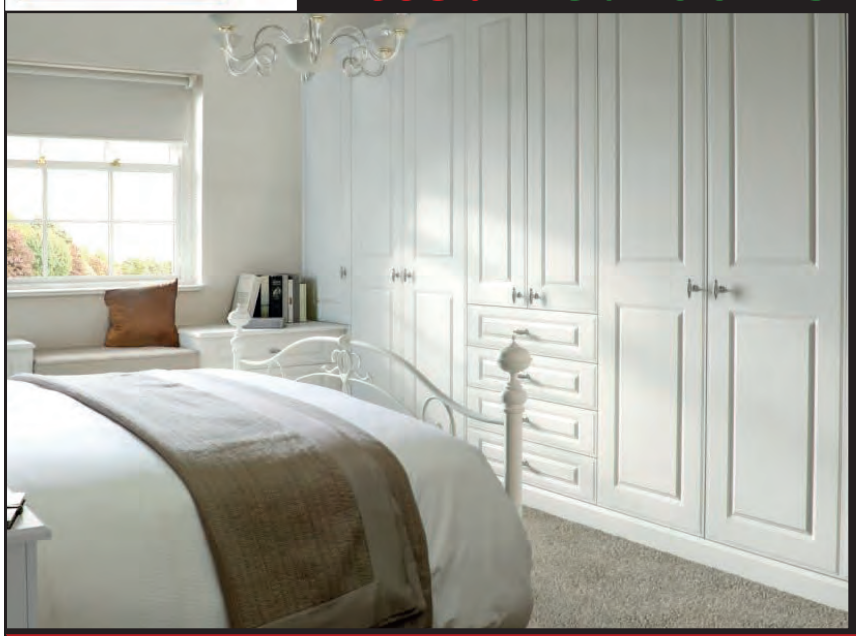

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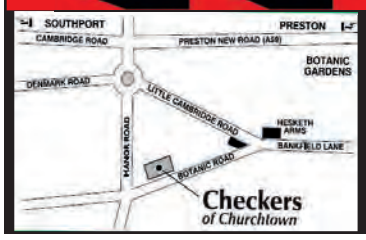

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Council votes to go 'single use' plastic free in 2020

WEST Lancs council has pledged to go single-use plastics free in 2020 after councillors unanimously passed a motion tabled by Our West Lancashire (OWL).

Report by **Kenny Parker**

The OWL party's leader, Councillor Adrian Owens, said the council needed to take a lead in the community in the fight against the harm plastic waste is causing to the environment.

Environmental Investigation Agency, an influential charity which investigates and campaigns for the environment, claims unprecedented growth in the production and use of plastics is triggering a 'global environmental crisis'.

The research-led organisation says that each year at least eight million tonnes of plastics leak into the ocean, an amount set to quadruple by 2050 unless major reform is put in place. Over 800 species are known to have ingested or been entangled in marine plastic pollution, killing hundreds of thousands of animals every year.

West Lancs council will now be playing its part in tackling the problem following the full agreement of councillors at a council meeting held on Wednesday, December 11.

The motion put forward by Cllr Adrian Owens was that the elimination of Single Use Plastics (SUP) be made part of the council's 'Carbon Neutrality Plan' which is currently being prepared.

Stating that 300 million tons of plastic are produced around the globe each year, of which 50% is for disposable applications such as packaging, the motion proposed that the council:

- Develop a robust strategy to make the council a 'single-use plastic free' authority by the end of 2020 including an end to the purchase and procurement of SUPs through the council's supply chain and the transition to the use of compostable bags for litter collection

Phasing out

- End the provision of SUP products such as cups and cutlery in council buildings and at council run events
- Work with tenants and operators in commercial properties owned by West Lancs council to encourage the phasing out of SUP cups, bottles, cutlery and straws
- Encourage the borough's businesses, organisations and residents to go 'single- use plastic free' working with best practice partners to provide business support, practical guidelines and advice to help local businesses transition from SUPs to sustainable alternatives.

Following the success of the vote, Cllr Owens, said: "Recent research has indicated that eight million metric tonnes of plastic ends up in the world's oceans each year, endangering marine life.

"It is estimated that plastics in landfill can take hundreds of years to decompose. Around 50% of the plastic produced around the globe each year is for disposable applications such as packaging.

"The council must take a lead in our community and act locally in the face of this problem. That's why Our West Lancashire put the issue before all councillors and I'm delighted that our motion passed unanimously.

"By the end of 2020, the council aims to be 'single use plastic free' and to use compostable bags for our litter collection. We will also work with tenants of our commercial buildings and the wider local business community and residents to promote the environmental benefits of going 'single-use plastic."

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Community groups urged to apply for funding from police

LANCASHIRE'S Police and Crime Commissioner Clive Grunshaw has called on more community groups to apply for a slice of funding.

Since launching in 2013, the Community Action Fund has seen more than £500,000 invested into projects across Lancashire, helping groups tackle local concerns and deliver the Commissioner's key priorities.

In 2019/20, £150,000 is available for community groups to bid for funding to deliver projects that tackle crime and reoffending, build safe, confident communities and support vulnerable people and victims of crime in the county.

From offering diversionary activity which help ensure people do not get involved in criminal activity such as anti-social behaviour, protecting vulnerable people and helping to ensure they don't become victims of crime and generally strengthening communities across Lancashire by bringing people together, there are a wide range of projects which benefit.

Earlier in 2019 the fund relaunched, solely utilising the proceeds of crime which have been removed from criminals and are now being reinvested back into the community.

The Commissioner said: "It's striking that since the Community Action Fund launched, over half a million pounds has been provided to local groups who are making our county a better place to live, work and visit.

Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner Clive Grunshaw.

"They deliver great value for money for relatively small investment, help me achieve the priorities in my Police and Crime Plan and ultimately, make the county safer.

"By utilising the proceeds of crime and giving this money back to the communities that are affected by criminal behaviour, it means we are able to invest into the people of Lancashire and do something positive with this money."

For more information visit www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/our-money/grant-funding/community-action-fund/

Water bills set to be reduced for households

WATER bills for West Lancashire residents will be cut after firms were ordered to reduce the average customer bill by £50 over the next five years.

Regulator Ofwat has placed tougher restrictions on water companies in England and Wales, meaning local households could save some money on their bills.

Water firms in England and Wales are facing the toughest restrictions on investor payouts since privatisation 30 years ago, the regulator has said.

Ofwat is also forcing firms to invest billions of pounds to improve their performance and reduce leaks.

The chief executive of the regulator, Rachel Fletcher, said: "We're firing the starting gun on the transformation of the water industry backed by a major investment programme to deliver new, improved services for customers and the environment and resilience for generations to come.

"Now water companies need to crack on, turn this into a reality and transform their performance for everyone."

A review of water companies' performance carried out in January found only three out of 17 water firms in England and Wales were of an acceptable standard.

Ofwat's five-year plan, which comes into effect on 1 April 2020, will enforce a tougher stance on the return on capital - a measure of the returns that can be paid to investors - in part because of lower interest rates which makes it cheaper for companies to borrow to invest.

There are also plans to cut down on leaks, to help two million more customers in need with support and to spend £1 billion to protect communities at risk of flooding.

Ofwat also outlined plans to cut pollution into rivers and streams by almost a third and provide £450 million to explore new water resources.

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WEDNESDAYS
- 10:00am-11:00am Emmanuel Methodist United Reformed Church, 38 Derby Street, Ormskirk L39 2DE
- 1:30pm-2:30pm Ecumenical Centre, Northway Skelmersdale WN8 6LU

THURSDAYS
- 9:30am-10:30am Parold WI, 2 Station Road, Parbold, Wigan WN8 7NU

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Tel: 01695 555804

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Trust welcomes new app which helps hospitals locate bank staff

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Southport Hospital.

Ormskirk Hospital.

SOUTHPORT and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust has engaged the help of a technology company to help with staffing issues, making it less reliant, it claims, on costly locum agencies.

The trust has partnered with Patchwork Health which has developed an app enabling doctors to directly access bank shift vacancies.

Patchwork Health, set up in 2016 by NHS doctors Anas Nader and Jing Ouyang, says that by connecting vacant shifts with healthcare workers. it saves the health service 'millions' while improving the experience for their workers, and ultimately, their patients - making sure a doctor is there when you need one most'.

The company's technology is being used by 12 trusts - including our own - in the UK and 10,000 medical staff.

Jennifer Pennifold, head of resourcing at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, said: "Ensuring we are creating the best working environment for our clinicians is one of our top priorities.

"We're therefore excited to be partnering with Patchwork to introduce a more robust and cost effective approach to temporary staffing."

Dr Nader, CEO of Patchwork Health, added: "We're delighted to be partnering with Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust. They share our vision when it comes to improving and modernising NHS clinical staffing. We will be working closely with them to drive up bank fill rates, ensure safe staffing on wards, reduce spend on locum agencies, and offer a better work-life balance to all their clinicians.

"Having lived these problems first hand, we know why innovative solutions are needed to tackle some of the entrenched issues around flexible working in healthcare."

A spokesperson for the trust added that the technology was introduced at the beginning of December and while agency staff have still been needed, it has been very successful.

Saying that the priority at the moment is making sure that slots in the hospitals' rotas are better filled, the spokesperson said the trust wasn't able to say how much the app was saving at present.

He added that a future aim was for doctors at other local trusts to be able to access the system and opt in for vacant shifts.

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Council wants locals to be prepared in case of flooding

WEST Lancs Council wants locals to check its website to make sure they are prepared in the event of local flooding in case of wet weather in January.

Reminding residents that they are responsible for protecting their home, irrespective of whether they are owners or tenant, council chiefs say the webpage www.westlancs.gov.uk/flooding can help them decide what steps to take, where they can get help with flood prevention equipment and what to do if flooding occurs.

The North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee also provides useful information on their flood hub, which can be accessed via www.thefloodhub.co.uk.

If severe weather does hit West Lancashire the council will be using its webpage www.westlancs.gov.uk/winter and social media to tell everyone if its services are affected.

The 'blue light' emergency services also use social media, and www.westlancs.gov.uk/winter can be used to find information on Lancashire County Council services such as highways, gritting and school closures.

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The deadline is approaching for primary school applications

Deadline is approaching to apply for primary school places

WEST Lancashire parents are being reminded of a deadline to apply for primary school places in 2020.

The closing date for applications is Wednesday, January 15, and the quickest and easiest way to apply is online via the county council's website.

Parents need to submit an application form for all children starting school, even if the child already has an older brother or sister at their preferred school.

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson, cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "I urge parents to remember to apply online for a primary school place for their child.

"If a family already has a child at a school, they must still apply for a place for their younger child.

"And if they have twins, they'll need to fill in two application forms.

"We know how important it is for parents to get the right school for their child, so we're encouraging them to apply on time to give themselves the best chance.

"It is important that parents include at least one of their local schools in their preferences.

"The deadline for applications for primary school places is January 15 2020."

Children start primary school in the September after their fourth birthday.

For more information, visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools

Parents can also call on 0300 123 6707.

Parents whose children attend Lancashire primary schools or academies, but live in another local authority area, should apply via the local authority where they live.

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Nursing chief welcomes new £5,000 grants for students

Report by **Kenny Parker**

PLANS to give nursing students annual grants of at least £5,000 from next year has been welcomed by Edge Hill University.

The cash incentive is part of a government drive to increase the number of nurses over the next five years.

Students studying specialist subjects or requiring additional child support will be able to access further grants of up to £3,000 per year.

Applications for student nurse places in England have fallen since 2016 when previous bursaries were scrapped in favour of loans.

Edge Hill University says it is hoped that the new financial offer will encourage more people to train to become a nurse.

The university's Deputy Director of Nursing Dr Kathryn Drury, said: "This funding is important as it means students will be assisted to attend those shifts on placements that are out of the usual public transport timetables, the shifts overnight or the shifts when they need extra childcare; increased living costs that are not currently recognised in generic student finance systems."

From September 2020 nursing students will receive an annual payment of at least £5,000, with some expected to receive £8,000 if, for instance, they specialise in some hard to recruit areas of nursing such as mental health or require additional childcare allowance, on top of the £1,000 already on offer

With further information to be released in the new year, the government has ensured the

Student nurses will be given more funding by the government.

funding does not have to be repaid and students will still be able to access funding for tuition and maintenance. The funding will be given to all new and continuing degree-level nursing, midwifery and many allied health students from September 2020.

The 'allied health' professions comprise 14 distinct occupations including: art therapists, dietitians, occupational therapists, paramedics, and physiotherapists,

Edge Hill University is aiming to recruit 555 new students nurses next year.

Dr Drury added: "We're delighted to see this increased support for our nurses and look forward welcoming potential students who may have felt that they couldn't before committing to the profession previously."

The deadline for university applications (managed by UCAS) is January 15,

Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock said: "We are embarking on the biggest nursing recruitment drive in decades, backed by a new universal support package."

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Help is at hand for victims of domestic abuse

THE festive and New Year period should be a happy time for all, but for anyone living with domestic abuse, the risks increase over this time.

If you think you, or someone you know is suffering from abuse, help is at hand.

Anyone who is in immediate danger should dial 999 and ask for the emergency services.

In West Lancashire, for any residents experiencing domestic abuse, help is available locally.

The Liberty Centre provides a wealth of services for all victims of domestic abuse and abuse.

They offer emergency accommodation to women, men and children, counselling and support for anyone affected by domestic abuse.

They can be contacted on their free confidential 24-hour helpline number 0808 100 3062 or on 01695 50600.

Heidi McDougall, West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership chairperson, added: "People can feel ashamed and scared talking about domestic abuse.

"We also urge witnesses of such violence not to be a bystander, come forward and speak out for those that are unable to report any problems to the Police."

More information is available at www.thelibertycentre.org.uk or on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Lancashire Victim Services offers emotional support, information and practical help to victims and witnesses in West Lancashire as well as across the county.

Anyone who needs support can call 0300 323 085, email info@lancashirevictimservices.org or visit www.lancashirevictimservices.org.

The West Lancashire Borough Council website www.westlancs.gov.uk/domesticviolence has more details about services available to people suffering domestic violence and gives details of Don't Be A Bystander a flagship campaign against Domestic Abuse launched in 2017.

Its central role is to encourage witnesses of domestic abuse to come forward to the police or charities such as the Liberty Centre.

Pupils showcase talents for care home residents

PUPILS from Ormskirk School and Sixth Form College showcased their musical talents at a party arranged for the residents of local care homes.

Guests from Abbey Wood Lodge and Stocks Hall Care Homes in Ormskirk were treated to an afternoon tea of sandwiches and cakes and a variety of entertainment.

Pupils recited poems, some sang solo, while the school's 'Young Voices' choir performed a range of magical musical ensembles.

Pam Anderton, Deputy Director of Sixth Form, said: "The school is very proud of all students involved, including the group of 6th form students who helped organise the event, who were amazing."

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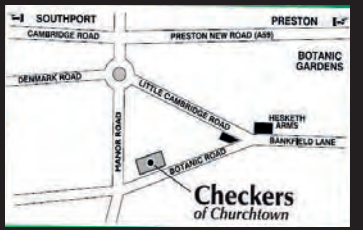

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Send your letters to: The Editor, Champion Newspapers, Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Have our posties not seen Blue Planet?

If anyone else noticed their local postman/woman leaving a trail of elastic bands behind them on the pavement, then I trust they witheld any Christmas tip they were intending to give them this year?

I took the trouble to speak to a postman on Grimshaw Lane and he said it didn't matter (they were discarded) because they are biodegradable!

Tell that to the birds and the wildlife in our watercourses. Have they not seen Blue Planet?

This is a relatively new problem so can I call upon the Post Office to go back to their previous system and stop littering our pavements with elastic bands.

Until then is it too much to ask for posties to pocket them for the Post Office or themselves to re-use?

I've picked up so many, I confidently predict I shan't need to buy any until 2025!

Graham Gilbert,
Ormskirk

Why not publish lists of GPs with appointments?

Thanks for publishing a reminder that GPs have weekend and evening appointments.

Nice to know they can be accessed by phone in the same way as other appointments

That will be a 'no' then. I have never in the past ten years accessed an appointment by phone. I have always had a 'Sorry, no appointments left today, try again tomorrow' reply with the same response the next day and the next. Attempts online are just as useless.

I have only ever managed to get an appointment by going to the surgery, finding out when the list for three weeks time opens and returning to the surgery at exactly the time the list opens and making an appointment there and then at the surgery

If the health service wants to do something useful it should publish lists of GPs, if any, who have appointments on a weekly basis and allow anyone regardless of which doctor they are registered with to make an appointment.

**Peter Simpson,
Aughton**

Leave camp did roar, and us Remainers have to accept it

In response to 'Mr Beleaver's' letter and his skewed idea of democracy, as far as I am aware, this is still a free country (for now anyway) and freedom to protest has always been one of the most valued rights in any democratic society.

For example back in the 1990's people took part in a march on London protesting against the hated Poll Tax. This brought about change and killed off this dreaded Conservative Policy.

In October, this year, I am proud to say that I was 'One in a Million' who took part in the march for a People's Vote on leaving the EU.

This was a peaceful demonstration which took place with no arrests.

However, we did encounter a small group of Leavers, shouting abuse at us, calling us traitors (and worse) until the police, who did a fantastic job, in managing such numbers on that day, moved these people on.

Also the comments about being the 'Silent majority' - over the past three years the Leave camp have been far from silent in airing their views.

So yes, Mr Beleaver the Leave camp did 'roar', we heard, and us Remainers have to accept that, but I am no traitor to the UK, Mr Beleaver.

However, I am deeply ashamed of the hateful and intolerant society we have become since the referendum, which in my opinion should never have been called in the first place.

**'One in a Million',
Skelmersdale**

PICTURE of the week

Champion reader Dawn Dixon of Crosby sent us this photo explaining: "We have recently discovered (well actually our greyhound did!) that we actually have two hedgehogs who visit our garden every night. They are just so adorable!" If you have a photograph you would like to submit for our Picture of the Week email editorial@champnews.com and include your name, the area where you live and a brief description of the photograph.

MARK REYNOLDS
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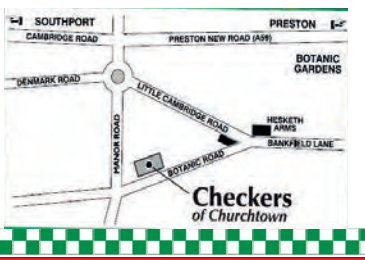

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Drink drivers warned they could be caught out on CCTV cameras

Report by **Henry James**

DRINK drivers are being warned they could be caught on CCTV.

In 2018/19 the CCTV Unit was involved in dealing with 5,509 incidents, and between November 2018 and October 2019 operators either supported the police or directly observed 88 incidents involving suspected drunk drivers.

The council is also urging residents to remember that excess alcohol and/or the use of drugs can increase the likelihood of committing a crime or becoming a victim of crime.

Councillor Kevin Wright, portfolio holder for health and community safety at West Lancashire Council said: "Driving under the influence of alcohol is a crime and is extremely dangerous. Please leave your car at home this Christmas."

There are currently 106 public open space cameras across the borough, including Ormskirk town centre and other various key locations.

CCTV operators are able to keep in close contact with local businesses and the police through the Shopwatch radio scheme and they can alert officers to any incident quickly.

A car caught on CCTV

Heidi McDougall, West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership chairperson added: "With Christmas around the corner we want people to feel safe when they are shopping or enjoying an evening out.

"We will be working closely with our partners over the festive period to ensure a happy Christmas is had by all and that people feel safe."

Businesses to work together for 'benefit of community'

MUIR Group Housing Association and West Lancs Ark CIC organised a Networking Day at Tanhouse Community Centre on for organisations to get together and promote working together for the benefit of the local community.

At the event there was information on the following: support and advice on setting up your own business; healthy eating advice; mental health services; getting back into employment support; life coaches; benefit, money and budget advice; help to quit smoking; drug and alcohol addiction support.

There was a free raffle too with the chance to win a Christmas hamper.

A spokesperson for West Lancs Ark CIC said: "Thank you to everyone who attended, hopefully we can do it again."

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Canada-based sports coach from Skelmersdale graduates with Masters

Report by **Henry James**

Toronto Wolfpack's Ashton Sims and Eddie Fashioni

EDDIE Fashioni left his Skelmersdale home to pursue a career in the professional rugby league and is now Toronto Wolfpack's First Team Sport Scientist.

After beginning a career in personal training and football coaching, the 29-year-old hadn't considered studying at university but, after returning from the United States at the age of 23, Eddie realised he wanted to perfect his craft.

He explained: "Graduating with a Masters is a relief and actually a bit of a shock for me; it's something I never imagined I would achieve.

"The idea of my Masters project came about when working with the Wolfpack and bouncing ideas off Rick Page, my third-year dissertation supervisor. So, to be in this position now is more than I ever expected of myself, but I am very proud."

Eddie was unable to return to Ormskirk for the graduation ceremony but returning to Edge Hill to complete his Masters was a no-brainer after graduating with a first-class BSc Sports and Exercise Science degree in 2018, having completed a Biology diploma in 2014.

During his undergraduate study – while working in the Edge Hill Sport fitness centre - he completed a placement and extra voluntary work at Leigh Centurions RLFC in the Super League and Fleetwood Town FC Academy.

Having played rugby for 15 years, since the age of 11, at both Orrell RUFC and Southport RUFC, Eddie's practical knowledge of the game has helped him in pursuing his career and coaching athletes.

After winning back-to-back league titles and promotion to the Super League with the Wolfpack, he now has a new role as the Head Fitness Coach at Toronto High Park Football Club.

He is also the Head Technical Coach for the U17 regional boys' team and U14 girls' team, fulfilling both his passion for fitness and football.

Looking to the future, he says he's always open to new opportunities in competitive and elite sports, no matter where that takes him.

"I'm very happy in my current role but I'm also always keeping one eye on my next step; if I could find the right position in a college or university setting here in North America, then I think that might be the perfect fit for me."

Eddie's latest research on 'the effectiveness of a practical half-time re-warm-up strategy on performance and the physical response to soccer-specific activity', was recently published in the Journal of Sports Sciences.

Quit Squad encouraging residents to start the new year smoke-free...

THE Quit Squad is encouraging Lancashire residents to prepare to enter the New Year, and the next decade, Smoke Free by giving up smoking and making a Smoke Free Promise.

This New Year, residents are being asked to put their health first and have stopping smoking at the top of their resolution list. By giving up smoking, not only will people improve their health and finances but they will also be protecting family, friends and pets from the effects of second hand smoke.

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Support for Ormskirk Street Pastors

LANCASHIRE'S Police and Crime Commissioner has donated £2,000 to Ormskirk Street Patsors and praised their work, along with four other organisations in the county, for helping make Lancashire's streets safer.

A total of £25,000 was allocated to support the work of street pastors, street angels and similar organisations in Lancashire.

Preston and South Ribble Street Pastors received £10,000, Blackpool & Fylde Street Angels £7,000, Chorley Street Pastors £4,000, and both Lancaster Street Pastors and Ormskirk Street Pastors were given £2,000 respectively.

Members of these groups are trained volunteers who usually patrol the streets of their community on a Friday and Saturday night, supporting the homeless and other vulnerable people whilst also offering assistance to night-time revellers and preventing violent incidents getting out of control.

Funding is being used by the groups to help them train and equip new volunteers, upskill current volunteers and for resources such as drinks and food to give out to vulnerable people.

Lancashire's PCC Clive Grunshaw said: "I'm delighted to be able to support the vital work that continues to be done to keep our streets safe.

"They provide support to vulnerable people, which is one of the key priorities in my Police and Crime Plan, whilst also providing a rewarding opportunity for those who want to give back to their community through volunteering."

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Above, from left: Chief operating officer, Steve Christian; Angie Westwood, matron for critical care; head of nursing for planned care, Stephen Mellars; Linda France and Peter Darlington

Golfers donate £5,498 to 'life-saving' care unit

Report by **Henry James**

THE LIFE-SAVING work of critical care staff at Southport and Formby District General Hospital was recognised with a £5,498 donation from members of Southport and Ainsdale Golf Club.

Ladies' captain Linda France fell ill shortly after arriving on holiday in Marbella, Spain, in 2013.

At first, she thought it was food poisoning but as her condition worsened, she was soon flown home - where doctors struggled to identify the cause of her illness.

She was finally admitted to the Critical Care Unit at Southport Hospital after a tiny tear was found in her gut, the effect of which was poisoning her body. Now very poorly, Linda's family was told to expect the worst and she was put in an induced coma in an attempt to save her life. It lasted 81 days.

Thanks to what doctors told her was her 'mental strength' and the brilliant care of staff, Linda was nursed back to health and now plays golf two or three times a week.

This year, as Ladies' Club Captain, she teamed up with the Men's Captain, Peter Darlington, to raise funds for the Critical Care Unit on their respective charity days.

Linda said: "I wouldn't be here without the Critical Care Team and I thought this was a good way of saying thank you to them."

Chief Operating Officer Steve Christian accepted a cheque on behalf of the Southport and Ormskirk Hospitals Charity for the funds raised at a Christmas coffee morning for members at the Liverpool Road club in Ainsdale.

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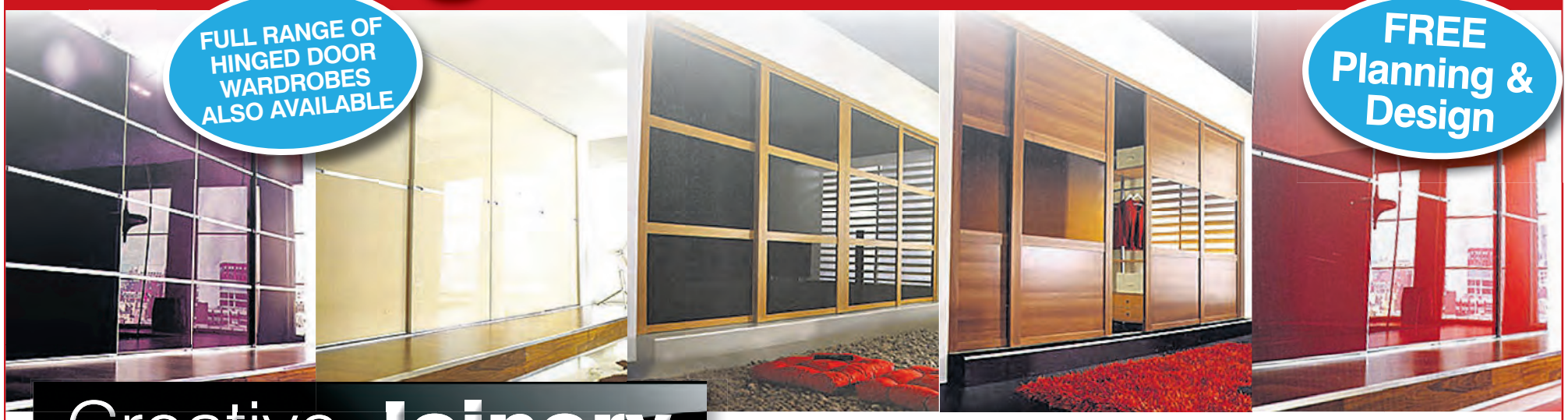

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Number of children homeschooled trebles in five years

THE number of secondary school children being homeschooled in Lancashire has nearly trebled in five years, while the number of primary aged children taught at home has almost doubled.

Homeschooling college Wolsey Hall Oxford says that secondary schools are 'off-rolling' pupils while at primary age parents are making the choice to take their children out of school.

According to school regulator Oftsed, off-rolling is when a pupil is removed from a school without a formal, permanent exclusion or when a parent is encourgaed to remove their child from school, when the removal is primarily in the interests of the school rather than in the best interests of the pupil

In Lancashire the number of secondary school children being homeschooled has risen from 395 in 2013 to 1,146 in 2018. While the primary aged figures have increased from 223 to 434 during the same period.

The increase came to light following a Freedon of Information request sent to all councils across the UK by Wolsey Hall Oxford, which found that in 2018 there were a total of 35,417 secondary aged and 22,800 primary age chidren schooled at home, up from 12,702 and 9,200 in 2013.

Lee Wilcock, principal at Wolsey Hall Oxford said: "Many parents cite several factors behind their decision but they can include mainstream school class sizes or lack of spaces at their preferred school, For others it can be seen as a lifeline allowing their child the opportunity to learn in a way that suits them."

Edwina Grant, Lancashire Couny Council's executive director for education and children's services, said: "We have a statutory duty to ensure that all children and young people are receiving a suitable full-time education, and schools are required to notify us if a child has been removed for home education.

"There has been a significant increase in the number of parents choosing to educate their child at home since 2015. Many parents make this decision on an informed basis. However, there are some instances when the education of a child at home might not be the most appropriate decision for the child or young person involved. We have reviewed and strengthened our processes in order to ensure that the correct support is in place for these children and young people.

"Our processes are now more robust and measures are available to help parents to make informed decisions so that their child receives a good education.

"Legally, parents have the right to educate their child at home if they choose to. Although we respect this right, we've put processes in place to make sure that any vulnerable children or young people are protected."

Mike Maguire

NHS boss who started out as clerk set to retire

Report by **Kenny Parker**

THE head of NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), who worked his way up from a clerk, is to retire in April.

Mike Maguire was a clerk in medical records at Southport General Infirmary when he started working for the NHS in the 1980s as a 17-year-old.

Working his way up in the organisation Mike, now 55, held some "significant roles across the North West" before becoming chief officer at West Lancs CCG in 2013, a role which saw him oversee the operation of the organisation at a strategic level.

While in the role, he has brought about the Well Skelmersdale programme, designed to celebrate and enhance the skills and opportunities of people in the area, and also launched the Grow Your Own initiative, which tackles the workforce issues the NHS is facing and championing the use of emerging technology which lead to the CCG winning two national digital awards.

Mike will cease to hold his chief officer responsibilities from January 1 and will instead work on dedicated projects for the CCG during his notice period, officially leaving the CCG on April 6.

The CCG boss, who plans to travel Europe on his retirement, said: "I always wanted to make a difference to people's lives, so the NHS was the perfect fit for me. Over my working years, I have seen the NHS evolve again and again, and I have no doubt it will continue to do so.

"Despite the challenges, the NHS holds huge promise and with a greater emphasis on self-care, prevention and an increased use of technology, we can transform the system to allow extra support for our changing needs and aging population."

About his departure, he added: "There is no place quite like West Lancashire! It's been a pleasure to serve an area I am so fond of. While in this role, I have been fortunate enough to work with some exceptionally talented individuals and a hard-working team at the CCG.

"I would like to thank everyone who has played a part in my long NHS career and wish them all the best for the future."

With Mike's imminent departure, the CCG is moving to a different organisational model by welcoming an interim Shared Accountable Officer, Dr Amanda Doyle.

Amanda is currently chief clinical officer at NHS Blackpool and Fylde and Wyre CCGs, and the Integrated Care System (ICS) lead for Lancashire and South Cumbria.

Dr John Caine, local GP and chair of NHS West Lancashire CCG, said: "Mike will be sorely missed by our team. He's ploughed his expertise, dedication and passion into delivering the best for West Lancashire community, and it has been a pleasure for me and the many colleagues that have worked with him during his career."

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SATURDAY
ORMSKIRK
Toby Carvery Private Function Room
County Road, Ormskirk L39 1NN
8am & 10am

SARAH
07969 395302

WEDNESDAY
UP HOLLAND
UpHolland Methodist Church,
Alma Hill
7.30am, 9.30am, 3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm

SATURDAY
OLD SKELMERSDALE
Greenhill Community Centre, Beech Close
(off Lancaster Crescent)
8am & 10am

KATHY
07815 199346

WEDNESDAY
BURSCOUGH
Burscough Cricket Club,
School Lane
3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm

CAROL
07794 957 524

TUESDAY
ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
5.30pm

ZOE
01695 580 966

THURSDAY
AUGHTON
Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane
8.00am & 10.00am

AUGHTON
Scout and Guide Hut
(behind Christ Church), Long Ln
5.30pm & 7.30pm

FRIDAY
ORMSKIRK
New Pavilion
Ormskirk Cricket Club, Altys Lane
9am

SUE
07957 531346

MONDAY
MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines, Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
6.30pm

THURSDAY
MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines, Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
5:00pm & 7.00pm

FRIDAY
MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines, Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
9:30am & 11:30am

KATIE
07469 193445

THURSDAY
MELLING
Caunce Hall (Scout Hut)
146, Waddicar Lane,
Melling, L31 1DZ
5pm & 7pm

SARAH
07792 146 342

THURSDAY
DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre,
Birleywood
9am & 11am

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre,
Birleywood
3.30 & 5.30pm

GILL
07921 222405

SATURDAY
MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane (behind Fun Factor)
8.30am & 10.30am

SHEILA
07827 335824

TUESDAY
CHESHIRE LINES
Sefton Lane (behind Fun Factor)
5pm & 7pm

WEDNESDAY
MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines, Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
9.30am

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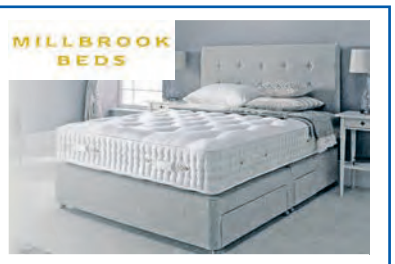

Double WAS	~~£1299~~	**SALE PRICE £899**
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Kingsize WAS ~~£599~~
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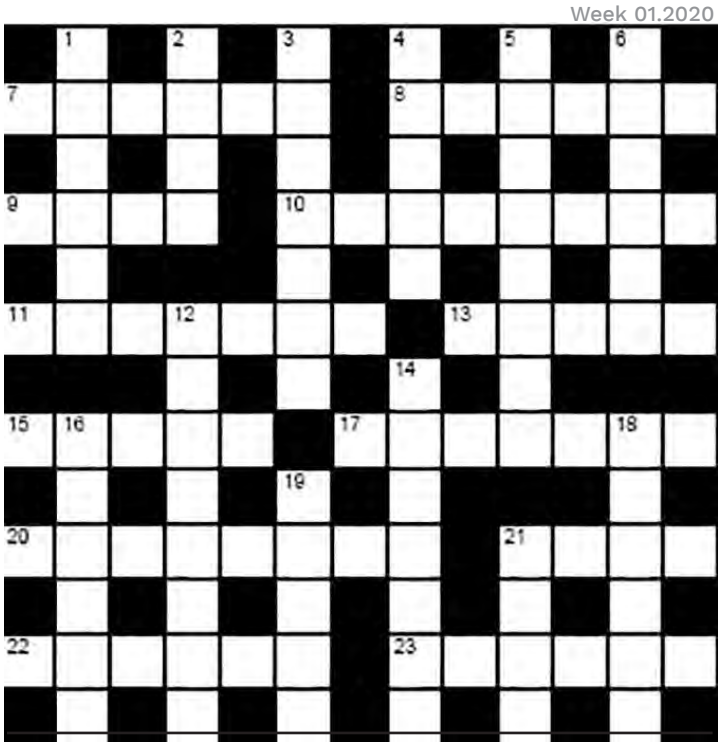
Week 01.2020



ACROSS

7 A shaking or echoing effect that is added to a sound, often by an electronic device (6)
8 The body of work of a painter, composer, or author (6)
9 Encourage or assist (someone) to do something wrong (4)
10 A neurological disorder marked by sudden recurrent episodes of sensory disturbance (8)
11 Preventing success or development; harmful; unfavourable (7)
13 A foolish and weak person (5)
15 Openly disregard (a rule, law, or convention) (5)
17 An expression of good wishes on parting (7)
20 Splash (a liquid) over a surface or object (8)
21 Shed tears (4)
22 A low, soft felt hat with a curled brim and the crown creased lengthways (6)
23 Annoyingly insensitive or slow to understand (6)

DOWN

1 (Of the feet of a swimming bird or other aquatic animal) having the toes connected by a membrane. (6)
2 Strike (a person or an animal) repeatedly and violently so as to hurt or injure them, typically with an implement such as a club or whip. (4)
3 The opposite or counterpart of a fact or truth (7)
4 Reasoning conducted or assessed according to strict principles of validity (5)
5 For or relating to young people (8)
6 A building in which people are legally held as a punishment for a crime they have committed or while awaiting trial (6)
12 A person, group, product, etc. that copies the behaviour of another person (8)
14 A cigar with both ends open (7)
16 A fold or hanging piece of flesh in some animals (6)
18 Force (an unwelcome decision or hearing) (6)
19 Dried stalks of grain, used especially as fodder or as material for thatching, packing, or weaving (5)
21 Unit of power (4)

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Plaint. 8. Temper. 9. Scan. 10. Thrilled. 11. Confirm. 13. Tibia. 15. Fetch. 16. Shyness. 18. Blinkers. 19. Apex. 21. Frolic. 22. Linage.

Down: 1. Bloc. 2. Significantly. 3. Stature. 4. Storm. 5. Emulsion paint. 6. Genetics. 12. Overlord. 14. Whistle. 17. Fence. 20. Edge.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a reprint as the incorrect grid was published last week. Sorry for any confusion.

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My cunning meal plan that avoided Doggy World War 3!

WELL, here I am writing this on Boxing Day morning having survived the Big Day itself remarkably well considering that only a couple of weeks ago it was beginning to look like Christmas sans lights, cooker or hot water.

As it turned out the only modern 'convenience' I lacked was TV - and in the event it turned out that radio was a very good substitute - and not nearly so 'tying.'

Indeed, the only major problem I faced was my dogs, Tina and Greedy Nan (Cinders).

In the past they have had their Christmas meals with me in dining room splendour.

The difficulty surfaced with how to give them their Christmas dinner and tea without starting Doggy World War Three!

This problem arose because at the moment I am lacking cupboard and working surfaces in the kitchen - and my dining room still needs sorting and getting the chairs off the dining table.

So meals are still being taken in my living room and this has posed a difficulty which didn't exist before.

For reasons of dog psychology which I do not claim to understand, the two of them are quite happy to be fed in the same room (Cinders previously took hers in the hallway) - but having both licked their respective bowls clean they start facing up to each other and on the evening before Christmas Eve this led to a fully fledged fight - up with which I will not put.

A little thought though solved the matter.

Cinders was tempted by a few treats to stay in the hall while I had my dinner (with Tina patiently watching) and then I put their share of Festive goodies on a plate each - Tina in the front room with me, Cinders still happily installed in the hallway.

With dinner good and properly over, Cindy was allowed back into the family - and all was well!

That was until I awoke this morning meaning to face opening a letter from HMRC - which rarely means good news.

This letter had arrived, I thought, on Christmas Eve and I had put off opening it of until after Christmas Day, not wishing to put a dampener on proceedings.

I know where I thought I'd put it - and these days there are far fewer places where it could be hiding than pre clear-out - and there it wasn't.

I have looked literally everywhere else that I could reasonably have put it, with no result apart from a rising panic.

Then, suddenly, I accepted the possibility that this postal delivery had in fact been but a nightmare - that no such letter had arrived.

And the more I think about it the more the idea has taken root.

Because surely even I would have been forced, by curiosity if nothing else, to have had a quick look to see what awfulness awaited me now had I really have had the envelope in my hand.

As I said, in the newly cleaned out house there are only a certain number of surfaces where I could possibly have put it.

So while I am still looking for this ethereal letter, I also managed to put it to the back of my mind and determined not to let it ruin our Boxing Day.

Shakespeare I think it was, who said: "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof " - which I take roughly to mean face whatever may come when it comes - and don't let it spoil a jolly good Boxing Day dinner (or it should be if the 'easy cut' turkey joint thaws out quickly enough.)

So the only cloud I am allowing on my immediate horizon is the one I can see through the window, which threatens periods of rain which will put a damper (literally) on my planned dog walk later this morning.

Anyway, I want to wish you all a very Happy New Year - for yourself, your families and, of course, your pets too!

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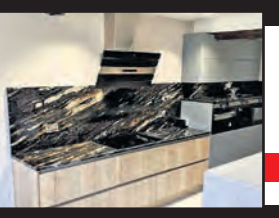

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Brass and percussion players returning due to popular demand

LOCAL musicians Intrada Brass Ensemble will return to the Auditorium of Parbold Village Hall on Saturday, January 18 for an evening of Music through the Ages.

Tickets for Parbold Douglas Music's concert are available from www.parbolddouglasmusic.org/ telephone 01257 498452 (answerphone).

Intrada Brass Ensemble is based in Preston and made up of 11 brass and percussion players. The variety of instruments they play allows them to perform a very wide range of music, from lighter pieces to classical works.

A considerable amount of their repertoire is arranged by members of the ensemble, which means that they always bring something new to their concerts alongside popular favourites.

Two years ago Intrada gave such a successful performance in Parbold that they have been invited back for a second appearance.

This time, they will play music showcasing the development of music for brass instruments since its earliest days.

The audience will be treated to some of the very first music written for brass instruments, from the 1500s, through to today.

Intrada will perform works by composers such as Tielman Susato and Giovanni Gabrieli, who wrote music to suit the earliest brass instruments in the sixteenth century.

Over time, as brass instruments became more sophisticated, composers who followed in their footsteps were able to write in a more virtuosic style. The audience will be able to hear the contrast in works by composers including Handel and Dvorak.

Tickets are £16 for adults and £5 for young persons and students. To book tickets visit www.parbolddouglasmusic.org /email tickets@parbolddouglasmusic.org / telephone 01257 498452 (answerphone).

For further information contact: michael.bonsall@btinternet.com / 01257 463646.

Meanwhile Parbold Picture House is hosting Horus Egyptology Society, Wigan, for a special event on Saturday, January 11, from 1pm to 6pm, (including tea) for a screening of the newly digitally restored version of Pharaoh (175 min.).

Intrada Brass Ensemble

This is unique presentation in the UK of the film has been negotiated by Dr. Michael Bonsall of Parbold Picture House and Horus with the Polish film company Kadr.

The film is regarded as one of the greatest artistic and commercial achievements of Polish cinema and was nominated for the Foreign Language Oscar.

It remains in the top ten most popular Polish films.

Adapted from the novel by Boleslaw Prus, it tells of the conflict between a youthful Pharaoh, Rameses XII, and the older high priest who holds the reins of power.

It is a timeless tale of power, who can grasp it, hold on to it and manipulate the people's moods and minds.

The film is praised by Egyptologists for the accuracy of its depiction of rites, customs, dress and ornamentation and the political dynamic that led to this ruler being the last true Pharaoh.

Prof. Joann Fletcher, York University and the BBC author/presenter of BBC 4 documentaries on Ancient Egypt, will give a talk about issues associated with the film.

Latest film showings at Bijou Cinema are released

IF you love movies you will be pleased at what is on offer week after week at The Bijou Cinema in Post Office Avenue, Southport. This community led project shows films you rarely have a chance to see on a big screen. The venue boasts of 'top of the range' projector and sound systems as well as very comfy seats. There's even a bar where you can get a drink or two at very reasonable prices....And that's not all! With a new Lounge and Media room ready for opening early 2020 this is one venue that promises to deliver surprises all year round. Watch this space for more details very soon.

The films this week are:

Matilda (1996). The Roald Dahl story of a wonderful girl and the worst parents in the world came to the screen courtesy of Danny de Vito. It is funny and has a great message at its heart. (PG). It can be seen on Thursday, January 2 at 2.30pm.

Don't Look Now (1973). Nicolas Roeg's masterpiece starred Julie Christie and Donald Sutherland in a Venice landscape. Visually haunting this is a film to be experienced on a big screen. (PG). This film will be shown on Thursday, January 2 at 7.30 pm.

Fantastic Mr Fox (2009) This film has terrific animation by Pixar and this is another chance to enjoy another Roald Dahl's tale. It is a tale of friendships and priorities brilliantly executed (PG). The film will be shown on Friday, January 3 at 2.30pm.

Amelie (2001). This absolutely wonderful movie is a delight as much for its message as it is for its visuals. Audrey Tautou is Amelie and France has never looked so... French! (15). The film can be seen on Friday, January 3 at 7.30pm.

Roman Holiday(1953). This is William Wyler's breakthrough movie for Audrey Hepburn. This delightful tale of princess and journalist also stars Gregory Peck and both dazzle in this classic gem. (U) The film will be shown on Saturday, January 4 at 2.30pm.

A Star Is Born (2018) Every 20 years or so this film gets a remake proving that nothing changes where fame is concerned. This latest version was a big hit and here's your chance to see it again on the big screen (15). It will be shown on Saturday, January 4 at 7.30pm.

Rear Window (1954) Hitchcock's masterpiece with Grace Kelly and James Stewart still packs the suspense to a high degree in this tale of voyeurism going wrong. Not to be missed (PG). Audiences can catch this film on Sunday, January 5 at 2.30pm.

Shanghai Express (1932) Joseph Von Sternberg discovered Marlene Dietrich and he directs her in this dangerous tale. A stylish movie to be discovered. (PG). This film can be seen on Tuesday, January 7 at 2.30pm.

All tickets for films are £5. Discounts available (ask at the cinema) all year long.

More details atwww.southportbijoucinema.co.uk

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Sun 12th	Winter Scenes in the Lake District	£18.00
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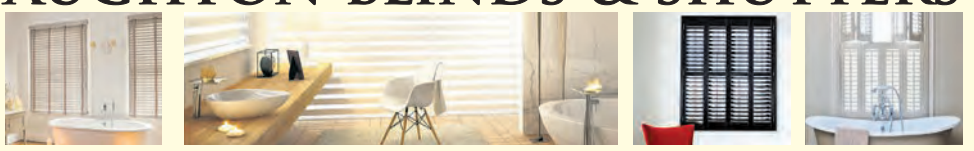

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BIKES

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TWO GIRLS BIKES grand childrens girls bikes good condition £25 each 0151 5473166

CLOTHING

HUGO BOSS NEW Mens Zip through Sweatshirt Colour Plum Cost £125 has tags Size medium £45 07773242918

CHRISTMAS TIES Mens ties, various patterns, silk £1.50, polyester £1.00. All in excellent condition. Photos available. 0151 2860268

DINNER SUIT Worn twice Black 55 polyester/45wool, chest 42", trouser waist 38". Also includes cummerbund/bow tie/nylon suit bag. £50, photos 0151 2860268

MENS JUMPERS Various sizes/colours - some Christmas pattern, excellent condition - never worn. Pure new wool or wool mix from £7.50. Email pictures available. 0151 2860268

MENS SHOES Casual, various colours and sizes, some band new from £7.50. Slightly worn but very good condition from £5.00. Photos available 0151 2860268

WINTER COATS Mens overcoats and jackets, wool/cashmere, Crombie/Jaeger/Dunn&Co/Watson&Prickard. Various sizes/colours, excellent condition. Overcoats from £15, Jackets from £10. Photos available 0151 2850268

CAMOUFLAGE WATERPROOF jacket / smock army woodland pattern size 180/90 zip & velcro fastenings attached hood large pockets pull cords new £6 01704 874084

LADIES DRESSES tops jackets skirts excellent condition may deliver £20 on 01515263851

ARMANI TOP Men's Size medium red top. Purchased September. Never worn as gift wrong size £40 less than half price bargain 07515534831

ARMANI JEANS Men's Armani Exchange blue denim jeans. Excellent condition as hardly worn Size 30 regular. Straight leg. £20 pick up Burscough 07515534831

DIY

MULTI LADDER Step& extension ladder vcg £30 07563736418

EXTENSION LADDER Heavy duty 24ft approx. vcg £60 07563736418

TILE CUTTER RUBI TS60 professional tile cutter £100 07563736418

DIY

WET ROOM return panel 1910mm 285mm 55mm 8mm toughened glass new still in box £60ono 07946073624

GARDENING

PUSH MOWER vgc £20. Ladies touring cycle vgc £35 01744 632889

LAWN MOWER vintage 1961 ransomes ajax mk4 12" cyclinder push along full working order, original instructions, excellent condition £17 01704 874084

HOBBIES

TRAILER BAR Trailer number plate bar with lights in full working order.Great condition,hardly used. £10.00 07780850905

ELECTRONIC KEYBOARD YAMAHA PSR-4B Electric key board, not stand but has a mains power pack and is fully working. £40.00 07780850905

LOGS for sale. 3 large bags £10 ideal for log burner or open fire 07788 602374

GARMIN FORERUNNER 235 GPS Sports watch in great condition with charging cable and glass screen protector. Only selling due to upgrade. £120 07429428989

PANASONIC LUMIX DMC-TZ55 MODEL,20X Zoom,video,to many functions to list,Comes with case& lead,&4GB Memory card, RRP£300+ Bargain price £75. 07980 162415.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

SHARP DVD/CD player with surround sound system in silver excellent condition may deliver £75 ono 01515263851

AKG/Y500 HEADPHONES Wireless bluetooth brand new boxed never been used £65 ono 07941042195

HOUSE AND HOME

DINGING SET Glass round table with 4 chrome chairs. 45 " across by 30" £70 07756229527

DINING SET Pine table with 6 chairs. 60 " long x 29" wide x 30" high £90 ono 07756229527

TEAK SIDEBOARD 3 drawers & 3 cupboards 31" high x 47" wide x 19" deep £30 07756229527

WELSH DRESSER Pine large dresser with 3 cupboards & spice drawers £100 07756229527

DISPLAY UNIT Mahogany with cut glass doors & lights 72" high x 18" deep x 36" wide £85 07756229527

ELECTROLUX HOOVER Green cylinder Hoover chic 1300 good working order £25 07756229527

MAHAGONY MIRROR Over mantel mirror from stokers 32" high by 44" wide £40 07756229527

CD/DVD TWISTER Mahogany cupboard style holds 144 cds or dvds 29" high x 16" wide x 17" deep excellent condition £60 07756229527

DINING SET Mahogany round extenable table with 4 chairs & matching display unit with lights & cut glass £200 the lot 07756229527

MASSAGE TABLE Portable folding table with green top and cut out face hole 74" long by 25" high by 27" wide £40 07756229527

RETRO ITALIAN STYLE TABLE pedestal inlaid mahogany, circular 4ft which is extendable. lovely centre piece, and four bubble- back chairs. £135. 0151 9292025

ELECTRIC HOTPLATE Prolex compact lightweight double hotplate, 1500w & 1000w, excellent condition used as back-up last Christmas, very useful. £10 photo, buyer collects. 01512860268

SIDE TABLE Oak furnitureland, Alto, natural solid oak, excellent condition, like new 50cm x 50cm. Formby, £50 01704 833268

BROWN LEATHER SOFA good condition £15. Bed, wooden slats £18. Hamster cage £30. Bedside globe good cond £14 07492 740424

HOUSE AND HOME

RECLINER quality leather chair from stokers, rich deep chestnut, superb condition & very comfortable soft leather chair £175 07912 215497

BIG MIRROR 233cm x 106cm huge mirror FREE Southport 7985531358

ELECTRIC FIRE Remote control living flame dimpled as new £75 01704 220938

SERIOUS LIGHTS High definition desk light black perf. Cond.£75 01704 220938

JOHN LEWIS Antique brass jane head & footboard only. New in box, never used. Just bolts to standard metal bed, RRP£499! £85. 07980 162415

JOHN LEWIS BED FRAME Antique brass, Jane double head & footboard only brand new in box, never used, RRP£599 Bargain price £80. 07989 162415

LADIES STRAIGHTENERS With Brush,Brand new in Box,heats up Quickly, Swivel cord,Ideal Present,RRP£50bargain £15. 07980 162415.

MISC

MEN'S WATCH Dyrberg/Kern. Fine silver metal strap, plain face. Still boxed. Cost £89 Accept £35ono 07530 597005

MOBILITY SCOOTER Maxi gte 8mph road ready four wheel model with lights, indicators, basket, captains chair with bag and charger. £269. 07788608742

QUARTZ HEATER Quartz Heater 800W. Focus. Safety cut out tilt switch. Works perfectly. £10 07486131930

HOTTER SHOES Ladies New Hotter Shoes 5.5 Brown Velcro fastening with button. Very comfortable. Bargain £22 07486131930

THE CHRISTMAS BOOK How to have the best Christmas ever. Everything about Christmas. New condition hard back, Black/white illustrations. 160 pages £7 01704560150

GOLF TROLLEY New pull one still in bag bargain £15 07773242918

TAYLOR MADE Golf bag black Stand Double strap Zips Fine Bargain £25 07773242918

EVERTON 90S FOOTBALL Fully Signed Football Been Kept In Loft Autographs Lovely Bargain £40 07773242918

FOOTBALL MEMORABILIA Wanted Shirts Programmes Ticket Stubs Etc Cash paid 07773242918

FOOTBALL TRAINERS Mens New Balance NEW Size About 8/8 Half US 9.5 Around 10 Pair £15 a Pair 07773242918

WHITE KNIGHT Dryer parts,including, Door,Motor,Switches, wiring loom,Etc,Cheap parts, call for pricing from £5. 07980 162415

MOBILITY

SHOPRIDER SCOOTER For Sale: A 2 year old black/grey Shoprider Cadiz mobility Scooter, very good condition serviced since new. £350 07733318449

MOBILITY SCOOTER 4 Wheel 4mph. Good condition. Basket. Bargain at £99 07788608742

SHOPRIDER MOBILITY Scooter. Four wheel. Red. 4mph includes charger. Only £149. 07788608742

WHEELCHAIR Near new steel wheelchair up to 18 stone £150. Only used 3 times.bought Sept 2019. Easy click foot pegs. 07832003715

TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR solid tyres, good condition, can deliver £55 Southport 214498

4 WHEELED mobility walker with seat and lockable hand brakes, little used, can deliver £40 Southport 214498

KARMA WHEELCHAIR self propelled wheelchair (aluminium frame, lightweight), quick release wheels, dual brakes, folds small, new condition, can deliver £80 South port 214498

WHEEL CHAIR Brand new travel wheel chair, plus extra memory foam seat £80 01695 725205

RASCAL 480 Mobility Scooter, under 3 years old, recently serviced plus 2 new batteries £300 01695 725205

TROLLEY 16X16" height 38" beech finish, on castors to enable safe & easy carrying things like food & drink from room to room £25ono 07912 215497

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MOBILITY

GRAB RAILS Four white 24 inches long, one 18" long new chrome white disabled grab rails, all very good quality. £8.00 each. 07387439004

MOTHER AND BABY

HIGH CHAIR Mama and Papas Snax Multispot high chair with removable tray and storage basket v g condition £20 07906826856

BABY STAION Rubbermaid baby changing unit, ideal for baby nursery, pubs, clubs, restaurants, shops. Cost new £200. Bargain £75 07387439004

CHILD'S CHAIR Small child's solid wooden primary school chair, pine in colour, extremely sturdy and secure. £10 07387439004

MOTORING

PUNTO WHEEL Fiat Punto Grande steel wheel with 175/65 R15 radial tyre in excellent condition.£45. 07968914294

MOTORING

HOMEMEDICS CAR Heat & massager,with different speeds & controls, just plugs into cigarette lighter & clips around seat. Ideal for cold days. £40. 07980 162415

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

GOLF BAG Tailor made carry Golf Bag Double Strap Stand all zips fine colour black really nice bargain £30 07773242918

EVERTON GOLF Head cover for driver with Everton crest unused £9 Maghull 01515262502

SRIXON GOLFBALLS AD333 Yellow 1 dozen for £8 all in excellent condition Maghull 01515262502

BLACKBENCH/WEIGHT SET used a couple of times ivgc, bench,arm curl bar, long straight bar 2 dumbell bars, 8x5kg, 8x2.5kg, 4x 2kg, 4x1.5kg plates comes from a smoke/petfree-home £150 01704 381079

BUOYANCY VEST Jobe Buoyancy Vest. Adult, Excellent Cond. £10 07795099515

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PRAYERS

Saint Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us, St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless pray for us.

Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayers may be answered. Say it for 9 days and it has never been known to fail.

Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude

Instructions:
Light your candle and declare out loud what miracle you need right now. Repeat this prayer 9 times for 9 days. Do this at the same time each day, never skip a day. If you do, you need to start over again. On the 9th day give thanks, and say "So be it." Give it up to Saint Jude and let go of any worry. You will see results in 72 hours. Never use this prayer to manipulate or control anyone. Use it only with the best intentions.

This is the most important part of the entire process YOU MUST pass this miracle prayer onto others. Some people publish it in the paper, others e-mail it to their friends, and others post it in a public building.

T & T

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

NELSON ERIC

The family of the late Eric Nelson would like to thank everyone who attended his funeral and for the many cards of condolence received and generous donations to Queenscourt Hospice. Also many thanks to Fr Daley and to David Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors for their care & support.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

AINSCOUGH CYRIL

Maureen and family wish to sincerely thank relatives, friends and neighbours, for their cards, flowers and generous donations to the Southport Kidney Fund during their recent sad loss.
We would also like to send our gratitude and appreciation to Father Godric at St. Anne's for his help, support and prayers at the Funeral Service.
Thanks must go to the doctors and nurses at both the Southport Dialysis Unit and Aintree University Hospital Kidney Ward for their continued care and compassion over the last few years as well as the home carers.
Finally thanks to Sally Hunter and the team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their support and dignified funeral arrangements.

DEATHS

MALLINSON MANDY

20th December 2019
Peacefully at home
aged 54 years

Much loved Mum of Diane.
Cherished Nan, Sister, Auntie and friend to many.
Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Friday 10th January at 4pm.
Family flowers only please by request.
Donations are yet to be decided.
All enquiries Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

DEATHS

HARROWER ALEXANDER (SANDY)

20th December 2019
Peacefully at Aaron crest nursing home, Skelmersdale
aged 81 years

The dearly loved Husband of the late Thelma, loving Dad of Mandy, dear Father in law of Justin and devoted Grandad of Jamie, Liam and Harry.
Funeral service and interment at Upholland Parish Church on Tuesday 7th January 2020 at 2:30pm.
Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Aaron Crest Nursing Home.
All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors Tel: 01695 722122/720012

MCDONOUGH CHRISTOPHER (CHRIS)

24th December 2019
Peacefully in Queenscourt Hospice
aged 66 years

Loving Husband of Susan.
Devoted Dad of Andi, Chris and Laura.
Cherished Grandad of Stevie, Bella and Elliot.
Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.
Family flowers only please by request.
Donations if desired for Queenscourt Hospice.
Funeral details and further enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel:01695 559868

DEATHS

RIGBY EDDIE

22nd December 2019
Peacefully at his home in Skelmersdale
aged 75 years

The dearly loved Husband of Ann, loving Dad of Jackie and Mark, dear Father in law of Peter and devoted Grandad of Nicola, Lewis and Beth.
Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium on Thursday 9th January 2020 at 12 noon.
Family flowers only please, donations if desired for The Alzheimer's Society.
All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors Tel: 01695 722122/720012

WILLIAMS MARGARET

23rd December 2019
Peacefully in hospital
aged 93 years

Loving Wife of the late Morgan.
Devoted Mum of Jennifer and Stephen, dear Mother in law of Brenda, cherished Nan, Great Nan and Great Great Nan of all her Grandchildren.
Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.
Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Thursday 2nd January at 10am.
Family flowers only please by request.
Donations if desired for The Dogs Trust.
All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

DEATHS

LUND ANNIE

19th December 2019
Aged 101 years

Died peacefully in Peacehaven House Care Home. Loving Wife of the late Norman. Mother of Elaine Anne and Mother-In-Law of John. Loving Nan of Suzanne, Louise and Gary. Step-Mum of George and the late Lester. Great Grandma of Racheal, Katherine, Eleanor, Rosie, Oliver, Jacob and Zara. Annie will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Service to take place at Southport Crematorium on Friday 3rd January 2020 at 12.40pm. Family flowers only please but donations are being gratefully received for Peacehaven House Care Home. By request, no black clothing to be worn, bright colours welcome. All enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

MAKIN ANTHONY JOSEPH (TONY)

15th December 2019
aged 65 years

Passed away peacefully at home, without pain, surrounded by his close family, taken from us far too soon. Beloved Husband of Gill, much loved Step Father of Louisa, Brother in law to Margaret, Dorothea & Dave. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Thornton Crematorium at 11.20am on January 9th 2020. Family flowers only please.
Donations welcome for Freshfield Animal Rescue or Guts UK. c/o Humphreys Funeral Directors 69 Liverpool Rd Crosby L23 5SE Tel: 0151 924 4805

HOLGATE NANCY STEWART

21st December 2019
Peacefully in hospital, aged 93 years.

Dearly beloved Wife of the late Alan.
Much loved Mum of Lesley and Nick and Ian and Joyce.
Loving Grandma to her Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.
Nancy will be sadly missed by family, friends and all who knew her.
Funeral Service and Committal will take place at Southport Crematorium on Monday 6th January 2020 at 1.20pm.
Family flowers only by request please but the family are gratefully receiving donations for Queenscourt Hospice.
Further enquiries please to Moisters Funeral Directors. 8 Marshside Road, Churchtown, Southport. PR9 8PF Tel: 01704 227430.

BEBBINGTON NORMA

'Norma'
Passed away peacefully at home on
24th December 2019
aged 83 years

Beloved Wife to Jimmy.
Mum to Carol, Linda, Paul and Debbie. Nan to 8 Grandchildren, Great Nan to 9.
She will be deeply missed by all her loving family and friends.
A funeral service will take place on Monday 13th January 2020 at 12 noon, West Lancashire Crematorium.
No flowers please.
Donations if desired to P.S.P. Progressive Supernuclear Palsy. c/o and all enquiries: W. Banks of Orrell, Sefton Villa, Sefton Road, Orrell, WN5 8UP Tel: 01695 622272

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DEATHS

MILLS DOROTHY

Dorothy Mills,
Loving Wife, Mother,
Grandmother and
Great Grandmother.

'Always in our hearts'.

Enquiries to
Neal Buckley,
Tarleton Funeral
Home,
49, Church Road,
Tarleton, PR4 6UQ.
Tel: 01772 301700.

SPENCER LILIAN

(nee GEE)
12 December 2019
At home aged 91 years

Widow of Harold and Special Mum to Sue and Jill. Dearly loved by family and friends, Lilian will be greatly missed and leaves a legacy of Love.

Celebration Service
St. Oswald's Church
Ronald Ross Avenue
Netherton L30 5RD.

6 January 2020
11.45 am.

No flowers please. Instead donations to Cancer Research UK on the day, in Lilian's name.

Enquiries:
Co-op Funeralcare
Tel: 0151 525 4881

CLARK RITA

17th December 2019
Peacefully
aged 68 years of Skelmersdale

The dearly loved Wife of the late Graham, loving Mum of David and Helen, dear Mother in law of Sonia and Ste and devoted Nan of Ben, Jack, Matthew and Mia. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium on Tuesday 7th January 2019 at 11:00am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Beaufort Residents Fund. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

ASHWORTH MARGARET

After a short illness peacefully in hospital on 17th December 2019, aged 88 years.

Much loved Mother of Ian and Keith. Loving Grandmother and Nan of Lauren and Callum. Dear Sister of Jim and the Late Frank Seaford. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at Southport Crematorium on Friday 10th January 2020 at 2.40pm. Family flowers only by request please but the family are gratefully receiving donations for The Donkey Sanctuary and the Stroke Association. Further enquiries please to: The Co-op Funeralcare, 58 Brows Lane, Formby, L37 4ED Tel: 01704 878480

SKINNER REVEREND JOHN RICHARD

December 18th 2019
Aged 74 years
Peacefully in Hospital after a long illness

Devoted Husband of Val and also the late Rosemary. Loving Dad of David, Sarah and Andy. A proud Grandfather who will be missed by all his family and friends. A service of remembrance will take place at Holy Trinity Church, Formby on Thursday 9th January at 11am. Family flowers only please but donations are being gratefully received for 'Parkinsons UK' or 'Dementia UK' c/o Dean Brothers Independent Funeral Directors, Deans Court, Gores Lane, Formby, L37 7DF. Telephone: 01704 872023

DEATHS

McGEE FREDERICK CHARLES

Aged 86 years
Passed away peacefully surrounded by his family at St Joseph's Hospice, Thornton.

Much loved Husband of Elsie. Devoted Father of David, Ian, Colin, Gillian and Stephen. Loving Grandad to William, Lucy, Alex, Adam, Sam, Ellie, Katy, Sophie, Ben and Steph. Fred will greatly missed by all his extended family and friends. Service at Moor Lane Methodist Church on Wednesday 8th January at 1:30pm.

Family flowers only please, donations if so desired to St Joseph's Hospice.

Further enquiries to
H. Leslie Humphreys
Funeral Directors,
69 Liverpool Road,
Crosby, Liverpool
L23 5SE
Telephone:
0151 601 4274

SEYMOUR MICHAEL GORDON

Peacefully in hospital 16th December 2019 aged 81 years

Dearly beloved Husband, Father and Grandfather.
He will be sadly missed by his family, friends and all who knew him. Funeral Service will take place at Lord Street West United Church on Friday 3rd January 2020 at 12.15pm followed by committal at Southport Crematorium at 1.20pm. Family flowers only by request please but the family are gratefully receiving donations for The Royal Hospital, Liverpool.
Further enquiries please to Brookfields Funeralcare, 73-75 Shakespeare Street, Southport PR8 5AJ. Tel: 01704 532106.

DEATHS

SARBUTTS ROBIN

Suddenly at home on 15th December 2019 aged 73 years

Much loved Dad of Kevin and Karen. Dear Father-in-Law of Rachael and Paul. Loving Grandad of Paul, Richard, Toni, Tammy, Gabby, Lyndon and Darcie. Loving Great Grandad of Mollie, George, Oliver, Isla and Sophie. Robin will be sadly missed by all his family, friends and all who knew him. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Thursday 9th January 2020 at 2pm. Family flowers only please, but donations are being gratefully received by the family for MIND. Further enquiries please to Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, Lancashire L40 5UU Tel 01704 897770.

JOHNSON ANTHONY EDWARD

20th December 2019
aged 77 years

Peacefully in hospital with his Wife by his side.
Beloved Husband of Mamie for 53 years. Devoted Dad to Helen & Scott, Niel & Alison, adored Grandad to Emily.
Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Wednesday 8th January 2020, at 3.00pm. Please wear bright colours. Family flowers only, donations if desired to North West Air Ambulance.

Donations and further enquiries please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Lancashire. Tel: 01695 424888

DEATHS

QUINN CAROL

Passed away peacefully 21st December 2019
aged 72 years
of Aughton

Dearly loved Wife of Tony.
Much Loved Mum of Andrew, Michael and Helen,
Dear Mother in law of June, Jayne and Rob,
Loving Grandma of Joe, Giorgia, Amy, Joe, Dan, Lucy and Millie, and
Great Grandma of Ethan, Loved and missed by all her family and friends.
Funeral Service at St. Michaels Church, Aughton on Thursday 9th January 2020 at 1.00pm, followed by committal at West Lancs Crematorium. Flowers or donations if so desired for Cancer Research.

Donations and further enquires please to Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton Lancashire Tel. 01695 424888.

SMITH JESSIE

Peacefully at Abbendon Nursing Home on 13th December 2019, aged 94 years

Much loved Wife of the late Alan. Beloved Sister to Elsie and the late Ernie, Harry and Latham. Jessie will be sadly missed by all her friends and family. Funeral Service will take place at St. Peters Church, Birkdale on Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 10:30am, followed by interment at Liverpool Road Cemetery, Birkdale. Family flowers only by request please, but donations are being gratefully received by the family for Dementia UK. Further enquiries please to Moisters Funeralcare, 25a Sefton Street, Southport, PR8 6SG. Telephone: 01704 501501

DEATHS

RUSSELL ARTHUR

11th December 2019
Aged 94 years
Peacefully at home

Loving Husband to Jean, Father of Suzanne and Son-in- Law Salvatore. Cherished by Grandchildren Robbie, Paul, Sophie & Claudia and Great Grandchildren Lucca, Antonia & Emma.

Funeral service at Southport Crematorium on Tuesday 7th January 2020 at 10am. Celebration of life at St Gregorys Social Centre. Those unable to attend the funeral service are welcome to join the family at the parish centre.

Enquiries to Craven Funeral Directors, 44 Liverpool Road, Lydiate, L31 2LZ Tel: 0151 531 7890

RILEY TERRY

R.I.P. TEZ

Reunited with your beloved Jackie.
I'll miss you my friend.

Love Joan
xx

RILEY TERRY (TED)

7th January 1956 - 21st December 2019
Passed away peacefully at his Skelmersdale home surrounded by his loving family

So grateful for precious time recently spent in Benidorm with Ted, a place he dearly loved.

Words cannot express what you meant to me. Memories of you will always be in my heart and mind.
You were a true friend and a gentleman.
Rest in peace my beautiful Brother.
Your broken hearted twin Maria and family
xxx

DEATHS

RILEY TERENCE (TERRY)

21st December 2019

Heaven has received another Angel,
The night another star,
Your life has become a loving memory,
I know you will never be far.
I know you are watching over me,
As my life goes on,
I will treasure the memories I have of you,
I can't believe you're gone.
You were a loving caring Grandad,
You were there for me a lot.
You will always hold a place in my heart,
A loving, treasured spot.
You were really one in a million,
A cut above the rest,
All who knew you would agree,
'You simply were the best'.

Love you always,
Love Robyn
xxx

RILEY TERENCE

21st December 2019

'My wonderful Brother Ted'
No words can describe how much I miss you.
You were the best.
R.I.P.
Love you millions.
Your little Sister Gail,
Nieces Carla, Kirsty, Bethan and Jessica
xxxxx

RILEY TERENCE (TERRY)

21st December 2019

He had a nature you could not help loving,
And a heart that was purer than gold.
And to those who knew and loved him,
His memory will never grow cold.
'Always loved and cherished'

Carrie, Kev, Ella and little Kenny.

DEATHS

RILEY TERENCE (TERRY)

21st December 2019
Peacefully at home aged 63 years

Cherished Partner of the late Jackie.
Loving Step Dad of Amanda and Carrie, dear Brother of Roy, Tommy (deceased), Marie, Janet and Gail.
Much loved Grandad of Robyn, Ella and little Kenny.
Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.
Funeral service and interment will take place at St. Michaels and All Angels Dalton on Friday 3rd January at 10.30am. All enquiries
Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane
Tel: 01695 559868

RILEY TERRY

Ours is just a simple prayer for God to keep you in his care.
Reunited with your loving Jackie.
R.I.P. Terry

With love
Sue and Garry
xx

RILEY TERENCE (TERRY)

21st December 2019

The day you left and gained your wings,
Our hearts just broke in two.
You left us with the memories,
and we love you dearly still.
You were a very special person,
with kindness in your heart.
We know we cannot bring you back as Heaven needs you now.
'Forever in our hearts you'll stay, loved and remembered every day'.

Love always,
Amanda and Phil
xxxxxx

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Announcements

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

RIGBY JAMIE 'OUR JAY'

31st December 2019

Our beautiful Son and Brother would have been 35 years old today

No gifts to give,
no cards to send,
just hearts full of love
that will never end.
You left us precious
memories that made
us laugh and cry,
The love you planted
in our hearts,
no millionaire could
buy.
If tears could build
a stairway, and
memories a lane,
we'd walk right up to
Heaven and bring you
home again,
and spend this special
day with you,
the way we always
used to do.
'Birthday wishes to
our beautiful boy'
We will always
remember your big
blue eyes and your
cheeky smile.
See you in Heaven
Son.
Love always,
Mum & Dad,
Danielle & Liam,
Stuart & family.
'Re-united with little
mate Taz'.
xxxxx

Blowing kisses to
Heaven,
from Ava Emily,
Iyla Beau, Harper Jai,
Poppy Jai and
Maggie May

xxxxx

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

FRAMPTON CAROLE

5th January 1947

Those We Love,
Don't go away,
They Walk beside us
every day
Not seen and heard,
but are always near,
still Loved,
Still Missed and very
Dear.

Happy Birthday in
Heaven

Love all the Family

Want to place a family announcement?
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BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

DRAPER NELL

(Nee Wilson)

2nd January 1955 - 20th August 2018

65 Years on the 2nd January 2020

My beautiful, caring,
brave Wife.
Love and miss my
best friend more each
day, and will do for the
rest of my life.
Amazing Wife and
Mother to Adele &
Laura,
Grand Mother to Alexa
& Ethan and Mother in
Law to Paul & David.
All our love Nell,
it hurts so much

Stan
XXX

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

LEA MARION

31st December 1930

If roses grow in
Heaven Lord
Please pick a bunch
for us
Place them in my
(Grand)Mother's
arms and tell her they
are from us.
Tell her we love her
and miss her and
when she turns to
smile place a kiss
upon her cheek and
hold her for awhile
because remembering
her is easy we do it
every day but there
is an ache within our
hearts that will never
go away.
With love from,
Jackie, Janice, Barry,
Kayleigh and Wayne
xxx

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice is hereby given that Mark Donnelly has applied for a premises licence in relation to Stocks Hall Health Club and Spa, Hall Lane, Mawdesley, L40 2QZ to permit the provision of the following licensable activities: Retail Sale of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises Monday to Sunday 11:00hrs to 21:30hrs. This application can be inspected in person at the below postal addresses (weekdays 09:30 to 16:00 by appointment) or on Chorley Council's Website at www.chorley.gov.uk. Any representations to the application shall be in writing and should be lodged with the Licensing Authority, PO Box 13, Chorley, PR71AR stating the terms of the grounds of the said representation, not later than 17/01/2020 clearly stating the grounds upon which the representation is made in relation to the four objectives of the Licensing Act 2003. It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is unlimited.

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QUEENSCOURT LOTTERY DRAW RESULTS

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£1,500 = 14918 £100 = 2190

Winners of £20 are as follows:

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12336	25307
162743	86389
23600	102564
16465	86472
28147	151804
15573	295672
14344	15824
48952	11080
17765	192274

JOSPICE LOTTERY WINNERS

Friday 27th December 2019

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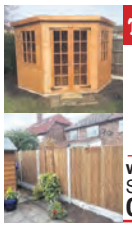

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FORGIVE me if I'm about to break all sorts of rules about product placement – but I'm fairly certain you'll know what I'm on about if I ask 'what beanz meanz.'

There are plenty of other fine purveyors of the flatulence-inducing dinnertime treat, of course, and you can pick up everything from squeezy bottles of sweet chilli ketchup to tins of creamy chicken soup bearing this culinary giant's corporate logo down at your nearest supermarket - but chances are that if I challenge you to come up with a maker of baked beans, you'll struggle to think of any other name.

In exactly the same way that proper small cars, for far longer than anyone cares to remember, means Fiat.

So I was a tad perplexed to learn the other day that, as part of a mega-merger between PSA (the owners of Peugeot, Citroen and Vauxhall) and Fiat-Chrysler (no prizes for guessing what they own) being signed off that the person heading up the Italian side openly suggested that it's Peugeot that should take the lead on making combined conglomerate's smaller offerings.

Admittedly, what the Gallic side gets in return – Jeep's mudplugging know-how for future off-roaders – makes complete sense, but to me it still seems like an extraordinary concession from the carmaker that does it better than anybody else. I'm not just on about the 500, which despite dating back to 2007 still manages to sell in decent numbers while maintaining a frisson of fun, or its addictively entertaining Abarth counterparts.

Both the Panda and 500 uphold a Fiat tradition of making entertaining cars on the smaller side

I'm on about underrated city cars that prove to be far more engaging outside of their natural habitats than any small car ought to be. Cars like the old Panda 100HP and the Cinquecento Sporting. We could go back even further – a year or two ago I drove an Autobianchi Giardiniera, which is essentially a 1960s Fiat 500 turned into an improbably small estate car, and loved every moment. It struggled to get above 45mph, but it was agile, brilliantly packaged and equipped with an endlessly eager two-cylinder engine.

I've written before about how emissions legislation is – ironically – making it less cost-effective to make small cars these days, and it doesn't make sense for Peugeot, Citroen, Vauxhall and Fiat to all compete with each other when they're under the same roof, but having Fiat give up what it does best is a step too far. Peugeot make some cracking small cars, of course, but it says a lot that its most petite offering, the 107, is actually a rebadged Toyota Aygo.

Fingers crossed that someone at the helm of this new car-making giant borrows a Panda for a couple of hours and sees sense. Small Fiats are a bit like beans on toast – you wouldn't want to have them all the time, but it'd be a strangely sad world without them at all.

I.J.D CARS TARLETON

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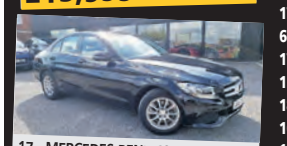
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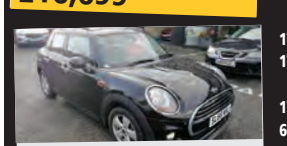
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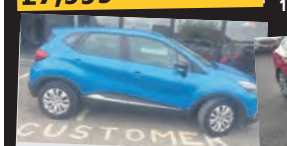
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17 Vauxhall ASTRA Gtc Cpe 1.4i Turbo 140ps Ld/ed S/s, White, 25480 miles £11499
68 Vauxhall CROSSLAND X 1.2t 110ps SE Au 6sp S/s, Sovereign Silver, 6845 miles £11990
68 Vauxhall ASTRA 5dr 1.0t 105ps Sri Ecotec S/s, Mineral Black, 12022 miles £11999
19 Vauxhall Corsa 5dr Hat 1.4 90ps SE Nav Au, White, 6918 miles £11999
66 Vauxhall MOKKA X Hat 1.4t 140ps Active Au, Boracay Blue, 18982 miles £12450
67 Vauxhall INSIGNIA G/sp 1.5t 165 Design, Dark Moon Blue, 12274 miles £12499
18 Vauxhall MOKKA X Hat 1.4t 140ps Active Ecotec S/s, Quantum Grey, 5619 miles £12890
19 Vauxhall INSIGNIA G/sp 1.5t 165 Design, Summit White, 4650 miles £12999
17 Vauxhall MOKKA X Hat 1.4t 140ps Elite S/s, Amber Orange, 12559 miles £12999
69 Vauxhall Corsa 3dr Hat 1.4 90ps Griffin S/s, Sovereign Silv, 2584 miles £12999
18 Vauxhall MOKKA X Hat 1.4t 140ps Active Ecotec S/s, Coppertino, 6267 miles £12999
67 Vauxhall INSIGNIA G/sp 2.0 Tbo D 170 Techline Nav, Mineral Black, 23662 miles £13499
19 Vauxhall MOKKA X Hat 1.4t 140 Griffin Pls Ectc Ss, Lava Red, 5761 miles £13999
67 Vauxhall INSIGNIA G/sp 1.5t 165 Sri Vxln Nav, Sovereign Silver, 18955 miles £14499
68 Vauxhall GRANDLAND X 1.2t 130ps Sport Nav, White Jade, 16099 miles £16999
19 Vauxhall COMBO Life 5dr 1.5 Cdti 100ps Energy 7s, Quartz Grey, 6907 miles £17490
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68 FORD KUGA TITANIUM X 1.5 ECOBOOST 180 BHP PETROL 4X4 AUTOMATIC Magnetic grey, full leather heated seats, panoramic sunroof, sync 3 sat nav, DAB & voice activated, bluetooth, appearance pack, parking sensors & balance of Ford warranty, cost new over £33,000 .....**Outstanding value at only 18,999**

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17 FORD KUGA TITANIUM 1.5 ECOBOOST 4X4 AUTOMATIC (PETROL), Deep impact blue, half leather trim, appearance pack & alloys etc, 20,000 miles .....**Value at only £14,999**

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66 FORD KUGA TITANIUM 2.0 TDCi, Electric Current Red, half leather trim, appearance pack, touch screen audio, alloys and bluetooth, 28,000 miles.....**£12,999**

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15 JAGUAR XJ 3.0 PREMIUM LUXURY, steel grey, full leather heated electric seats with memory, meridian sound system, sat nav, panoramic roof, keyless go. One owner, 30,000 miles with full history. Costs new £60,000. Executive motoring for only.....**£21,999**

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68 FORD GRAND C-MAX ZETEC 1.5 TDCi, Chrome blue, sat nav & DAB radio, parking sensors, a/c & alloys, 5000 miles, costs new £25,000 .....**Value now at only £13,999**

18 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER 1.4T ENERGY, Glacier white, sat nav, alloys, A/C & DAB radio, 21,000 miles only**Great value £11,999**

18 FORD FIESTA 1.1 ZETEC 5-DR, Latest Model, choice of Deep Impact Blue or Shadow Black, Alloys, touchscreen controls, A/C, elec pack, massive saving Ford warranty.....**Fantastic value from only £8,999**

18 PEUGEOT 108 TOP CONVERTIBLE ALLURE 1.2, Purple hHaze, electric roof, alloys, DAB radio, remote locking, 7,000 mile only.....**Looks amazing £7,999**

67 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI ST-LINE, Frozen White, sat nav, body styling, Bluetooth, DAB radio, CD etc, Ford warranty, big saving only.....**£11,999**

17 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER 1.6 CDTi SRi, Diamond black, full leather interior, sat nav, privacy glass, 19,000 miles only, cost new £28,000 Now only **£12,999**

17 FORD FOCUS 1.0 ST-LINE, Shadow Black, Sync sat nav, privacy glass, alloys and A/C etc, exceptional value at only.....**£10,999**

66 SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDi SE-L EXECUTIVE ESTATE AUTOMATIC, Steel grey, full leather interior, sat nav, heated seats, climate & cruise control etc **£15,999**

66 SKODA YETI SE L 1.2 AUTO, Glacier White, full leather interior, heated seats, DAB radio, alloys, parking sensors, 10,000 miles only **£12,999**

66 FORD GALAXY 2.0 TDCi ZETEC, Magnetic grey, sat nav, A/C, alloys & parking sensors etc.....**Great Value at £13,999**

66 FORD S-MAX 2.0 TDCi TITANIUM SPORT, Panther Black, privacy glass, sat nav, body styling, 18" alloys, climate control, 20,000 miles only, stunning car at only **£17,999**

66 VOLVO V40 CROSSCOUNTRY 2.0 T3 152 PRO, Copper, dual tone leather heated seats, sat nav, DAB radio/CD, alloys etc 17,000 miles only.....**£12,999**

66 NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 1.5 DCi Pearl white metallic, panoramic roof, full leather heated seats, sat nav & bluetooth, stunning car .....**Only £12,999**

66 FORD C-MAX TITANIUM 1.5 TDCi Magnetic grey, touchscreen audio, parking sensors, climate & cruise control 11,000 miles only, £20 tax.....**£10,999**

66 FORD C-MAX 1.5 TDCi AUTO Frozen white, A/C, Alloys & DAB Radio/CD. 9,000 miles only. £20 Road Tax. Simply stunning **£10,499**

66 FORD C-MAX ZETEC 1.5 TDCi AUTOMATIC, Lunar sky, alloys, parking sensors, A/C, Bluetooth, 16,000 miles only.....**£9,999**

66 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTi ELITE ESTATE, Caspian blue, full leather, heated seats, alloys parking sensors, zero road tax.....**£9,999**

66 FORD C-MAX 1.0 ZETEC ECOBOOST, Deep impact blue, sat nav, DAB radio, parking sensors 25,000 miles only, £30 tax.....**£9,999**

66 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 1.5 TDCi, Deep Impact Blue, A/C and alloys, DAB radio/CD, sat nav, zero road tax, 17,000 miles only ...**£9,999**

66 FORD C-MAX ZETEC 1.5 TDCi, Magnetic Grey, Alloys, Parking Sensors, A/C, & DAB Radio/CD. 14,000 miles only. £20 Road Tax **£9,499**

66 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER SRI 1.6 CDTI, Roman Bronze metallic, privacy glass, alloys, A/C, parking sensors and e/pack, 28,000 miles only, £30 road tax.....**£9,999**

66 FORD C-MAX ZETEC 1.0 ECOBOOST, Magnetic grey, DAB radio, Bluetooth, rear sensors, 23,000 miles, only £20 road tax ...**£9,499**

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16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCi N-CONNECTA, Imperial Blue Metallic, Sat Nav, Panoramic roof, alloys & A/C etc, 24,000 miles only ..**£10,999**

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16 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 CDTi SRi, Diamond black, alloys, A/C, privacy glass etc, 15,000 miles only, £30 road tax.....**Only £9,999**

16 FORD C-MAX ZETEC 1.5 TDCi, Deep Impact blue, sat nav, rear parking sensors, bluetooth & alloys, 27,000 miles only £20 tax.....**£8,999**

16 CITROEN C3 PICASSO PLATINUM 1.6 BLUE HDi, Stratos Silver, panoramic roof, alloys, A/C, parking sensors etc, £20 tax, only 7,000 miles.....**£7,999**

16 FORD ECO SPORT ZETEC 1.5 TDCi, Diamond white, alloys, A/C, privacy glass & bluetooth, 20,000 miles only & £30 road tax **£7,999**

16 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCi ACENTA, Signal red metallic, A/C, alloys, elec pack, cd/radio, £20 road tax and lots of MPG ...**Value at £7,499**

16 CITROEN C4 CACTUS 1.6 HDi, flair, Diamond black, alloys, A/C and elec pack, 28,000 miles only, zero road tax .....**Value at £6,999**

65 RENAULT KADJAR DYNAMIQUE S 1.5 TDCi AUTOMATIC, Ink Blue metallic, SAT Nav, Half leather trim, Climate Control, DAB Radio & Bluetooth, alloy wheels, etc.....**£9,999**

65 FORD C-MAX ZETEC 1.5 TDCi, Panther black metallic, A/C, alloys, rear sensors, 19,000 miles only, £20 road tax..**Only £8,499**

65 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 LIFE, Rosso red, alloys, A/C, full elec pack, 18,000 miles only.....**Value at £5,999**

64 FORD GALAXY TITANIUM 2.0 TDCi AUTOMATIC, Deep impact blue metallic, climate control, alloys, privacy glass, parking sensors, bluetooth & Cruise control.....**£10,999**

64 FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5-DR Frozen White, A/C, alloy, e/pack and bluetooth, 33,000 miles only, £30 road tax **Value at only £6,699**

13 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 ELITE 5DR, graphite grey, full leather heated seats, a/c, alloys, elec pack, 21,000 miles only **£5,999**

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*** GRANDLAND X 1.2 TURBO SE 5 DR 68 REG** just 1,600 miles in topaz blue metallic, alloys, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, climate, cruise, rear park assist, DAB radio **£15,295**

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*** CROSSLAND X 1.2 SE 5 DR 18 REG** 5,000 miles in lava red, alloys, climate, cruise, Bluetooth, heated front seats and steering wheel, rear park assist, IntelliLink, DAB radio – FSH, ...**£10,295**

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*** INSIGNIA 1.5 TURBO SRi SPORTS TOURER (PETROL ESTATE) 5 DR 68 REG** 5,000 miles in black metallic, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, DAB radio, front & rear park assist, climate, cruise.....**£15,995**

*** INSIGNIA 1.5 TURBO SRi NAV GRAND SPORT (PETROL) 5 DR 68 REG** 11,000 miles in dark moon blue metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, DAB radio, front & rear park assist, climate, cruise.....**£14,350**

INSIGNIA

INSIGNIA 1.6 SRi NAV CDTi 5 DR 66 REG 62,000 miles in sovereign silver metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise – FSH with ourselves, Sept MOT & £0 road tax **£7,295**

VAUXHALL ASTRA

NEW MODEL ASTRA

*** ASTRA 1.4 TURBO SRi AUTO 5 DR 68 REG** 5,000 miles in Aegean blue, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise **£12,795**

*** ASTRA 1.0 TURBO SRi 5 DR 68 REG** 3,000 miles in flip chip silver/blue metallic, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, DAB radio, alloys, cruise, aircon.....**£11,995**

*** ASTRA 1.6 TURBO SRi NAV 200 68 REG** 13,000 miles in sovereign silver metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise.....**£11,650**

*** ASTRA 1.4 TURBO SRi 5 DR 68 REG** 15,000 miles in sovereign silver metallic, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise **£11,495**

*** ASTRA 1.4 TURBO SRi 5 DR 68 REG 15,000** miles in lava red, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise.....**£11,295**

*** ASTRA 1.4 TURBO SRi 5 DR 66 REG** 13,000 miles in sovereign silver metallic, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, DAB radio, front & rear park assist, alloys, aircon, cruise – FSH & August MOT **£9,795**

*** ASTRA 1.4 SRi 5 DR 66 REG** just 4,000 miles in deep sky blue metallic, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, front & rear park assist, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise, FSH & July MOT **£9,495**

NEW MODEL ASTRA ESTATE

*** ASTRA 1.4 SRi TURBO ESTATE 5 DR 19 REG** just 1,000 miles (LIKE BRAND NEW) in cosmic grey metallic, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise.....**£13,395**

*** ASTRA 1.4 SRi TURBO AUTO ESTATE 67 REG** 18,000 miles in deep sky blue metallic, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise, front & rear park assist - FSH **£11,195**

VAUXHALL CORSA

*** CORSA 1.4 SE NAV AUTO 5 DR 68 REG** 13,000 miles in lava red, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon.....**£10,995**

*** CORSA 1.4 SE AUTO 5 DR 66 REG** just 2,000 miles in emerald green metallic, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon, - FSH and Sep MOT.....**£10,295**

***CORSA 1.4 SE NAV 5 DR 68 REG** 7,000 miles in lava red, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, intelliiink, cruise, aircon, alloys, DAB radio, heated windscreen, front & rear park assist heated front seats & steering wheel.....**£9,895**

*** CORSA 1.4 SE 5 DR 18 REG** 6,000 miles in Persian blue metallic, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon.....**£9,795**

*** CORSA 1.4 SE 90 5 DR 18 REG** 4,000 miles in sovereign silver metallic, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon.....**£9,695**

CORSA 1.4 SE 5 DR 16 REG 33,000 miles in flame red, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen – FSH & supplied by ourselves - £30 road tax.....**£6,995**

*** CORSA 1.4 ENERGY 3 DR 65 REG** 58,000 miles in white, alloys, front & rear park assist, cruise, heated front screen, heated front seats, Bluetooth – FSH with Vauxhall, 12 months MOT & £30 road tax.....**£4,995**

MOKKA X

*** MOKKA X 1.4 TURBO ACTIVE AUTO 5 DR 18 REG** 2,000 miles in Boracay blue metallic, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise, DAB radio, front & rear park assist, climate, FSH **£13,850**

*** MOKKA X 1.4 TURBO ACTIVE 5 DR 68 REG** 9,000 miles in Boracay blue metallic, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise, DAB radio, front & rear park assist, climate **£12,395**

*** MOKKA X 1.6 DESIGN NAV 5 DR 17 REG** 17,000 miles in burnt orange metallic, SAT NAV, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise, DAB radio, front & rear park assist, climate – FSH.....**£10,995**

OTHER MAKES

*** VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDi SE NAVIGATION 5 DR 18 REG** 23,000 miles in tungsten silver metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, front & rear park assist, alloys, cruise, climate – balance of 3 yr VW warranty **£18,695**

LANDROVER DEFENDER 110 2.4 TDi HARDTOP 4x4 STATION WAGON 5 DR (7 SEATER) 10 REG 69,000 miles in silver blue with cream wheels, DAB radio/CD, towbar, spotless, 12 months MOT **£17,995**

*** AUDI Q3 2.0 TDi S LINE NAVIGATION 5 DR 66 REG** 22,000 miles in grey metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, DAB radio, alloys, climate, rear park assist – FSH & £30 road tax **£17,350**

*** AUDI Q3 1.4 TFSi SE S TRONIC (AUTO) 5 DR 66 REG** 24,000 miles in hainen blue metallic, Bluetooth, alloys, DAB radio, climate, rear park assist – FSH..... **DUE IN £16,750**

*** VW GOLF 1.5 SE NAV TSi 5 DR 68 REG** 8,000 miles in tornado red, SAT NAV, alloys, cruise, aircon, front & rear park assist – balance of 3 yr VW warranty **£16,495**

*** AUDI Q3 1.4 SE 5 DR 66 REG** 13,000 miles in grey metallic, Bluetooth, alloys, DAB radio, climate, rear park assist - FSH.....**DUE IN £16,395**

*** BMW X1 2.0 18d xLINE sDRIVE 5 DR 16 REG** 21,000 miles in white with cream leather & heated front seats, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, aircon, DAB radio, rear park assist - FSH, £20 road tax.....**£16,150**

*** BMW 2 SERIES 218d LUXURY 2.0 TD (DIESEL) AUTO 5 DR 67 REG** 15,000 miles in grey metallic, SAT NAV, cream leather, Bluetooth, DAB radio, alloys, rear park assist, aircon – FSH and balance of 3 year BMW warranty **£15,995**

*** AUDI A4 1.4 SE TFSi 4 DR 67 REG** 17,000 miles in white, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise, climate, front & rear park assist – balance of 3 yr Audi warranty **£15,695**

*** FORD KUGA 1.5 T ZETEC ECOBOOST 120 5 DR 19 REG with APPEARANCE PACK** 10,000 miles in magnetic grey metallic, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise, DAB radio, heated front screen, aircon and balance of 3 year Ford warranty **£14,995**

*** HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.6 SE NAV GDi (PETROL) 5 DR 18 REG** 5,000 miles in grey metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, cruise, heated front seats, rear park assist & camera - FSH & balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty **£14,995**

*** HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.6 SE NAV GDi (PETROL) 5 DR 18 REG** 14,000 miles in cherry red metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, cruise, heated front seats, rear park assist & camera - FSH & balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty **£13,995**

*** RENAULT KADJAR 1.3 TCE (PETROL) ENERGY DYNAMIQUE S NAV 5 DR 68 REG** 13,000 miles in mercury silver metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, front & rear park assist, DAB radio, alloys, cruise, balance of 3 year Renault warranty.....**£13,695**

*** PEUGEOT 2008 1.2 ALLURE PREMIUM 5 DR 19 REG** just 1,000 miles in grey metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, aircon, panoramic roof, cruise, DAB radio, rear park assist & camera – balance of 3 yr Peugeot warranty.....**£13,295**

*** HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 SE NAV CRDi 5 DR 66 REG** 22,000 miles in inca beach metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, climate, cruise, DAB radio, alloys, heated front seats, reverse camera – balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty, FSH & £30 road tax and 12 months MOT **£12,795**

HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 SE NAV CRDi 5 DR 66 REG 29,000 miles in grey metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, cruise, heated front seats, rear park assist & camera - £30 road tax – FSH & balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty **£12,395**

*** RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCe ICONIC 5 DR 68 REG** 9,000 miles in flame red metallic with black roof, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, rear park assist, climate, cruise, space saver wheel – balance of 3 yr Renault warranty **£11,495**

*** AUDI A1 1.0 SPORT TFSi 5 DR 66 REG** 26,000 miles in white, Bluetooth, DAB radio, aircon – FSH, 12 months MOT & £0 road tax.....**£11,295**

*** RENAULT KADJAR 1.2 TCe DYNAMIQUE NAV 5 DR 66 REG** 11,000 miles in mercury silver metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, cruise – FSH & August MOT..**£11,250**

*** KIA SPORTAGE 1 1.7 CRDi 5 DR 66 REG** 26,000 miles in white, Bluetooth, alloys, aircon, cruise, DAB radio – FSH, October MOT, £30 tax & balance of 7 yr Kia warranty **£11,150**

NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCi TEKNA 5 DR 65 REG 50,000 miles in ink blue metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, leather, heated front seats, parking camera, alloys, cruise, DAB radio – FSH with Nissan, £20 road tax & Oct 2020 MOT **£10,495**

JEEP RENEGADE 1.4 T LIMITED 5 DR 65 REG 35,000 miles in bright red, leather, heated front seats, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, cruise, front & rear park assist – service history & Sept MOT.....**£9,995**

*** HYUNDAI IX35 1.6 SE NAV (PETROL) BLUE DRIVE 5 DR 65 REG** 35,000 miles in white, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, reverse camera & rear park assist, heated front seats, cruise – FSH & balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty **£9,495**

*** PEUGEOT 2008 1.2 ALLURE 5 DR 66 REG** 23,000 miles in white, Bluetooth, rear park assist, cruise, DAB radio, climate, alloys – FSH and July MOT - £30 road tax **£9,195**

SEAT LEON 1.4 FR TSi with TECH PACK 5 DR 15 REG 48,000 miles in black metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, DAB radio, front & rear park assist, alloys – FSH, 12 months MOT & £20 road tax **£8,995**

NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCi ACENTA PREMIUM 5 DR 64 REG choice of 2 - 50,000 miles in cherry red or ink blue metallic, SAT NAV, alloys, Bluetooth, DAB radio, cruise, panoramic roof, privacy glass, rear parking camera - £0 road tax & FSH **£8,995**

*** RENAULT CLIO 0.9 DYNAMIQUE NAV TCE 90 5 DR 18 REG** 8,000 miles in diamond black metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise - balance of 3 yr Renault warranty **£8,795**

CLOSED NEW YEARS DAY
Open Thursday 2nd January

*** HYUNDAI I30 1.4 SE (PETROL) BLUE DRIVE 5 DR 66 REG** 31,000 miles in silver metallic, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise, rear park assist – FSH & balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty **£8,295**

HYUNDAI IX20 1.6 SE CRDi (DIESEL) BLUE DRIVE 5 DR 17 REG 26,000 miles in white, alloys, Bluetooth, rear park assist – FSH with Hyundai & balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty.....**£8,150**

MERCEDES SL280 AUTO CONVERTIBLE M REG 1994 90,000 miles in Silver with Grey leather, rear seats, detachable hard top (with stand) – June MOT - Owned by a friend of mine for the last 14 years (always garaged) - Lovely car with full service history....**£5,750**

CITROEN DS3 1.6 DSTYLE E-HDi 3 DR 15 REG 49,000 miles in black, alloys – service history & £0 road tax - local car.....**DUE IN £5,150**

QUALITY PART EXCHANGES

VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2 S 5 DR 60 REG 27,000 miles in red, PAS, central locking – supplied by ourselves – spotless & £30 road tax, FSH with us & Vauxhall, 12 months MOT. **£3,495**

VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.4 CONVERTIBLE 2 DR 09 REG just 16,000 miles & spotless in bright blue metallic, alloys **£2,695**

MAZDA 2 1.3 TS2 5 DR 09 REG 72,000 miles in silver metallic, alloys - 12 months MOT.....**£2,495**

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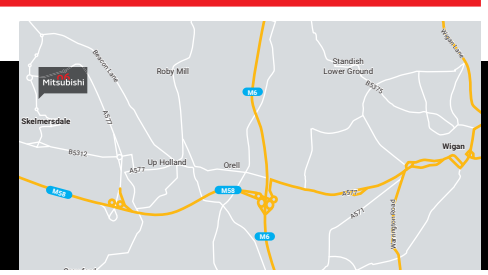

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Linnets come back from a goal down to claim vital win

Burscough 2
Hanley Town 1

BURSCOUGH came from behind to earn a vital three points despite an ugly brawl involving both sets of players and their benches, ***writes Neil Leatherbarrow.***

The pressure was on the Linnets with bottom club Litherland Remyca breathing down their necks.

After coming under some early pressure and conceding a goal, to their credit they fought back to pick up all three points, which proved vital it retains their three point cushion above Remyca.

However the game simmered from the off and it was almost inevitable that a clash would occur and when it did deep into the second-half with Burscough then 2-1 up it resulted in a sending off for both teams after a head butt by a Hanley player set off a chain reaction from both sets of players and coaching benches.

On 17 minutes a long throw was hoisted into the Linnets area, Jon Higham got up above everyone and directed a header into the Burscough net, at that point it was justice on balance of play.

Just before the interval Burscough levelled when the ball was sent into the goalmouth by Conor Christiansen, where George Lomax equalised with an excellent finish.

Hanley started the second-half well but now Burscough were ready for them and although they had possession they created few valid opportunities.

On 64 minutes Burscough broke away down the right side, Salkeld was slipped in and rounded Hanley goalkeeper Aaron Woolrich, then from an acute angle slipped a wonderful finish past the keeper low into the corner of the net.

Burscough went close twice soon after the goal, but then on about 75 minutes the incident occurred that everyone was left talking about rather than the football action.

In front of the dug-outs Thorpe threw in a clumsy challenge and words were exchanged between him and Burscough's Conor Ready.

Thorpe appeared to headbutt Ready who took Thorpe in a head lock and resulted in a brawl between all the players.

When it had all calmed down, Thorpe and Ready were both dismissed as was Dane Jackson from the Hanley bench and Paul Bowes from the Burscough bench.

The game settled down afterwards and even at the end both teams were off to the dressing room peacefully.

In the latter stages both teams had opportunities rather than clear cut chances but by the end the Linnets comeback was complete.

Burscough hadn't just won, they had deserved to come back from behind. Despite the dreadful first-half show at Skelmersdale they are playing a lot better than they were a couple of months ago and have every chance of avoiding the bottom relegation place in the North West Counties Premier Division.

Burscough prepare for Ashton Athletic clash

BURSCOUGH and Skelmersdale United return to action this Saturday.

Skelmersdale entertain Padiham at their new home ground, while Burscough have a local derby at Ashton Athletic.

The Padiham game is an important game for Skem as the East Lancashire team are only a place and two points ahead of them in the table, so it is vital for their hopes of pulling away from relegation danger that they win.

They have a good chance too, Padiham have recently had a change of management, seeing former Skem hero Adam Morning standing down from his position as co-manager leaving Michael Morrison in sole charge.

It won't be easy for Burscough as Ashton Athletic have promotion hopes, sitting seventh in the table and they won 5-0 at Burscough in October.

Skelmersdale have certainly drawn the short straw next midweek, facing their longest away trip of the season on Monday, January 6 at Whitchurch Alport for a re-arranged fixture.

Alex Griffiths celebrates scoring Skem's second goal. Pictures by John Driscoll

Derby delight for Skem with victory in first match at new stadium

IT was the perfect homecoming for Skelmersdale United on Boxing Day as they claimed derby delight with a 4-0 win over Burscough at JMO Sports Park, ***writes Simon Driscoll.***

The first chance of the afternoon saw George Lomax try his luck in the opening minute from distance with Ben Barnes claiming comfortably. United responded with a great chance, Tom Croughan picking out Emini Adegbenro who slotted across goal to find the run of Alex Griffiths but saw the ball beat both him and the far post.

Linnets went close with a Conor Christiansen cross flicking off Nathan Martland before being cleared by the United defence and a quick counter soon saw a long pass from Daniel Murphy find Croughan on the run who crossed low, only to see a defensive flick on with no United attacker in space.

The first save of the afternoon for Jones was a huge one as Griffith's lay-off from a free-kick saw Richard Brodie fire at goal with Jones tipping the ball away but he was simply a spectator minutes later as clever play from Adegbenro saw him cut inside and drive a low shot achingly past the post.

United opened the scoring fortuitously on 22 minutes as a through pass from Griffiths looked to pick out Croughan who though beaten to the ball by Jones collected from a fumble and tapped into the empty net for 1-0 to seal a place in history as the first to score at the new stadium.

Croughan turned provider just two minutes later as his run and cross took a deflection off a Linnets defender to fall perfectly for Griffiths to run onto and slot past Jones for a 2-0 lead.

Burscough looked to respond rapidly and with Nathan Martland finding Christiansen in space, he forced a strong diving save from Barnes from the edge of the area. Another effort this time from distance saw Conor Ready force Barnes to tip past the post.

The new stand at the JMO

United were in control on 39 minutes as a clever wing run from Croughan saw him loop a cross which took a slight touch off Adegbenro and flew into the net past Jones for a 3-0 advantage.

The contest looked to be sealed before half-time as United opened up a dream 4-0 lead with just 42 minutes on the clock and alike the opening goal, it came via some luck as a poor clearance from ex-United midfielder Adam Weston fell kindly for Jack Grimshaw who curled the ball past Jones into the far corner.

The second half saw the rain intensify and the game became tighter on the pitch with fewer chances, Christiansen and Martland both drawing saves from ranged efforts for the visitors before Croughan evaded several challenges only to get away a tame shot which Jones claimed comfortably.

Burscough's best chance to cut the gap came as a low cross beat Barnes and needed just a touch at the far post but strong defence coupled with a block as the ball fell to Martland kept United's sheet clean.

The Linnets went down to ten men as having used all three substitutes, Adam Dixon had to go off injured after falling awkwardly in an aerial challenge for the ball with Adegbenro.

Clever play from the visitors saw ex-United striker Sean Yeldrem pick out fellow substitute James Salkeld whose strong effort stung the palms of Barnes but it proved to be the final chance as with the final whistle minutes later, United celebrated a perfect start in their new home and in front of a record crowd for the season.

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